



Inter-Procedural Analysis

CMPUT 416/500
Foundations of Program Analysis

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Previously

- Points-to
- Aliases
- Must and May analyses
- Incomplete Programs
- Weak vs Strong Updates
- Access Paths
- Distributivity

Inter-Procedural Data-Flow Analysis

- Beyond procedure boundaries
- Model the effects of
 - calls in the callers, and
 - calling contexts in the callees

Inter-Procedural Data-Flow Analysis

- Approaches
 - Generic: Call-strings approach, functional approach
 - Problem specific: Alias analysis, Points-to analysis, Partial redundancy elimination, Constant propagation

Inter-Procedural Data-Flow Analysis

fun s()

fun r()

fun t()

Inter-Procedural Data-Flow Analysis

fun s()
Ss

fun r()
Sr

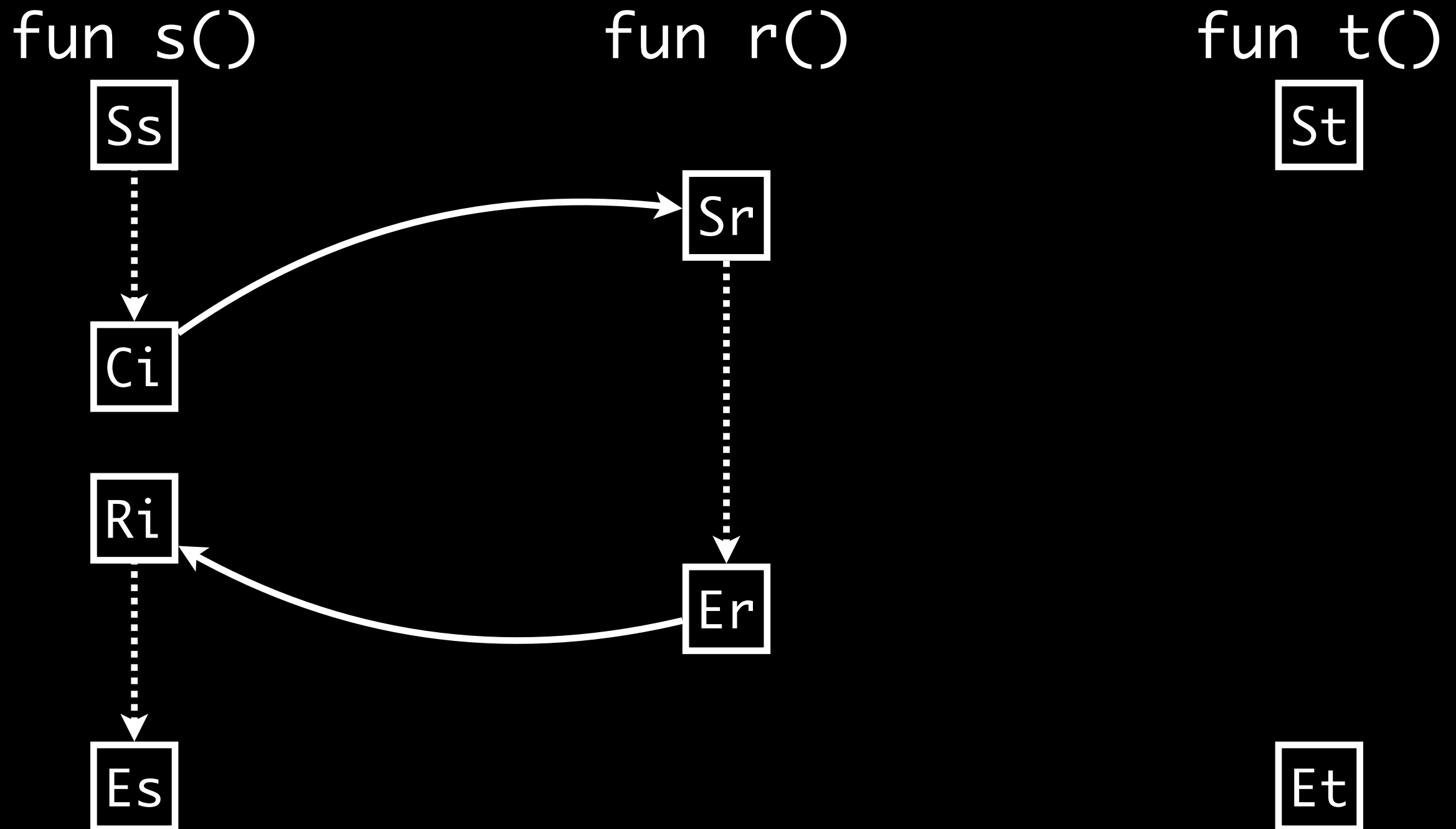
fun t()
St

Es

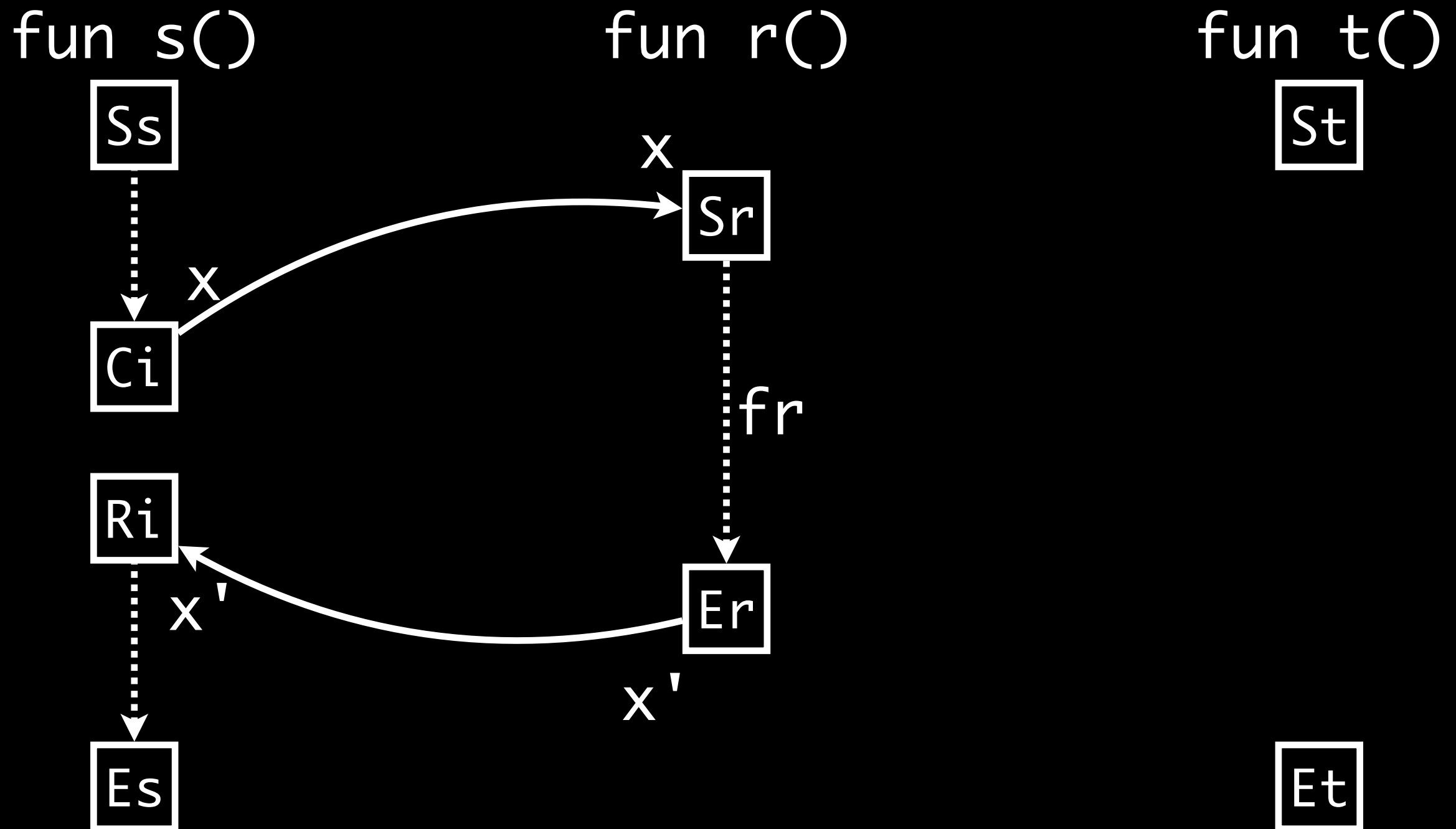
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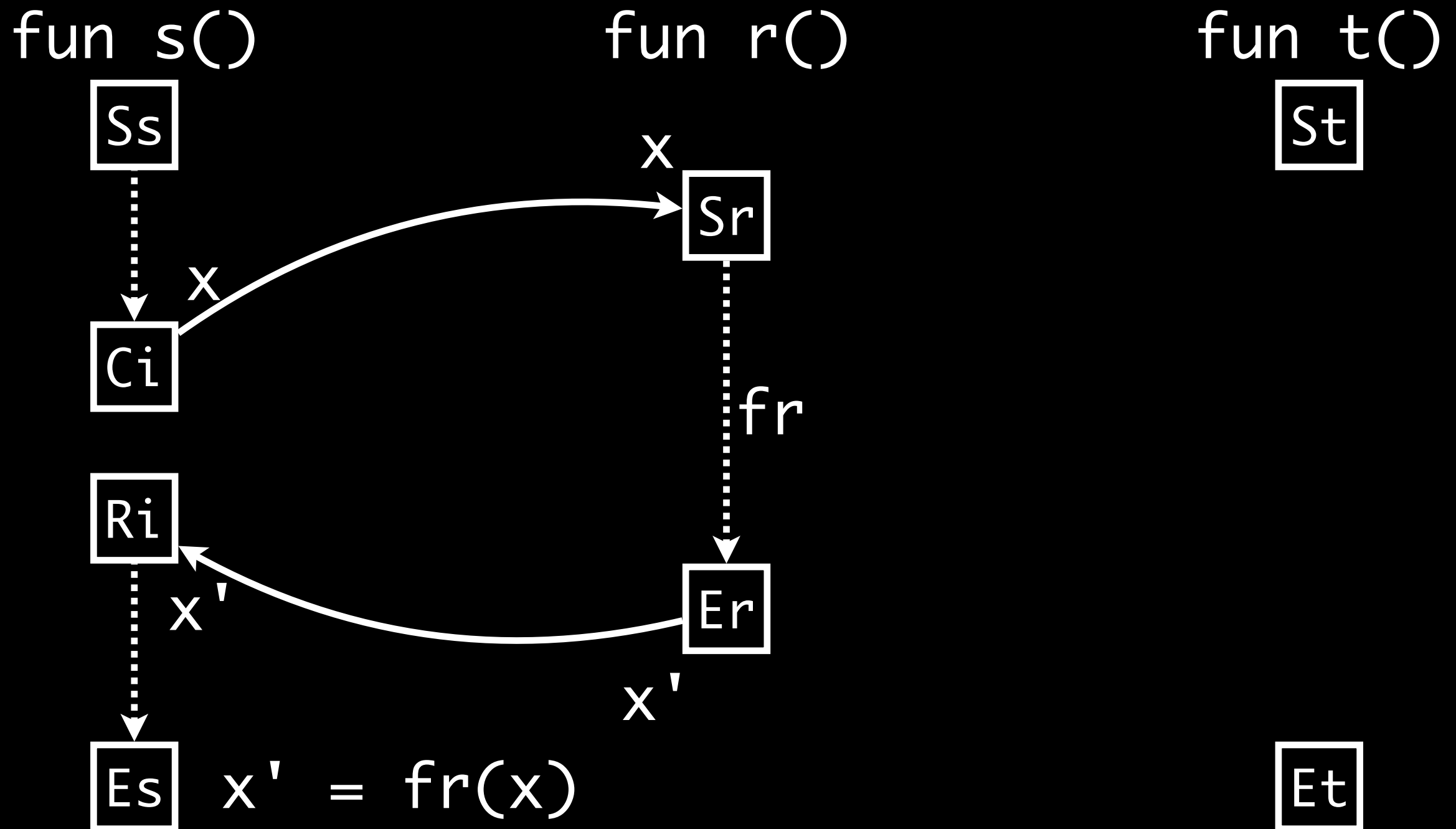
Inter-Procedural Data-Flow Analysis



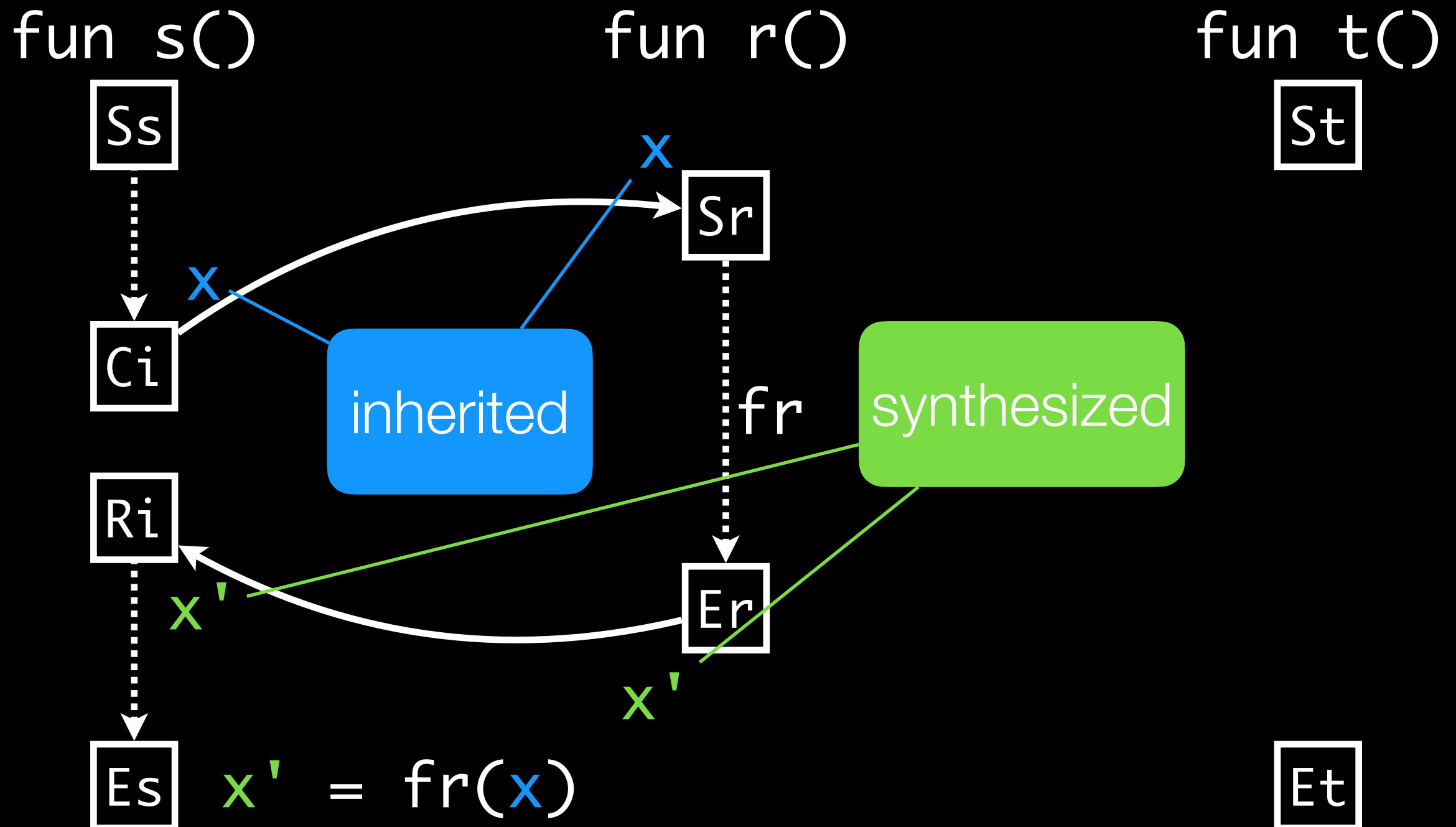
Inter-Procedural Data-Flow Analysis



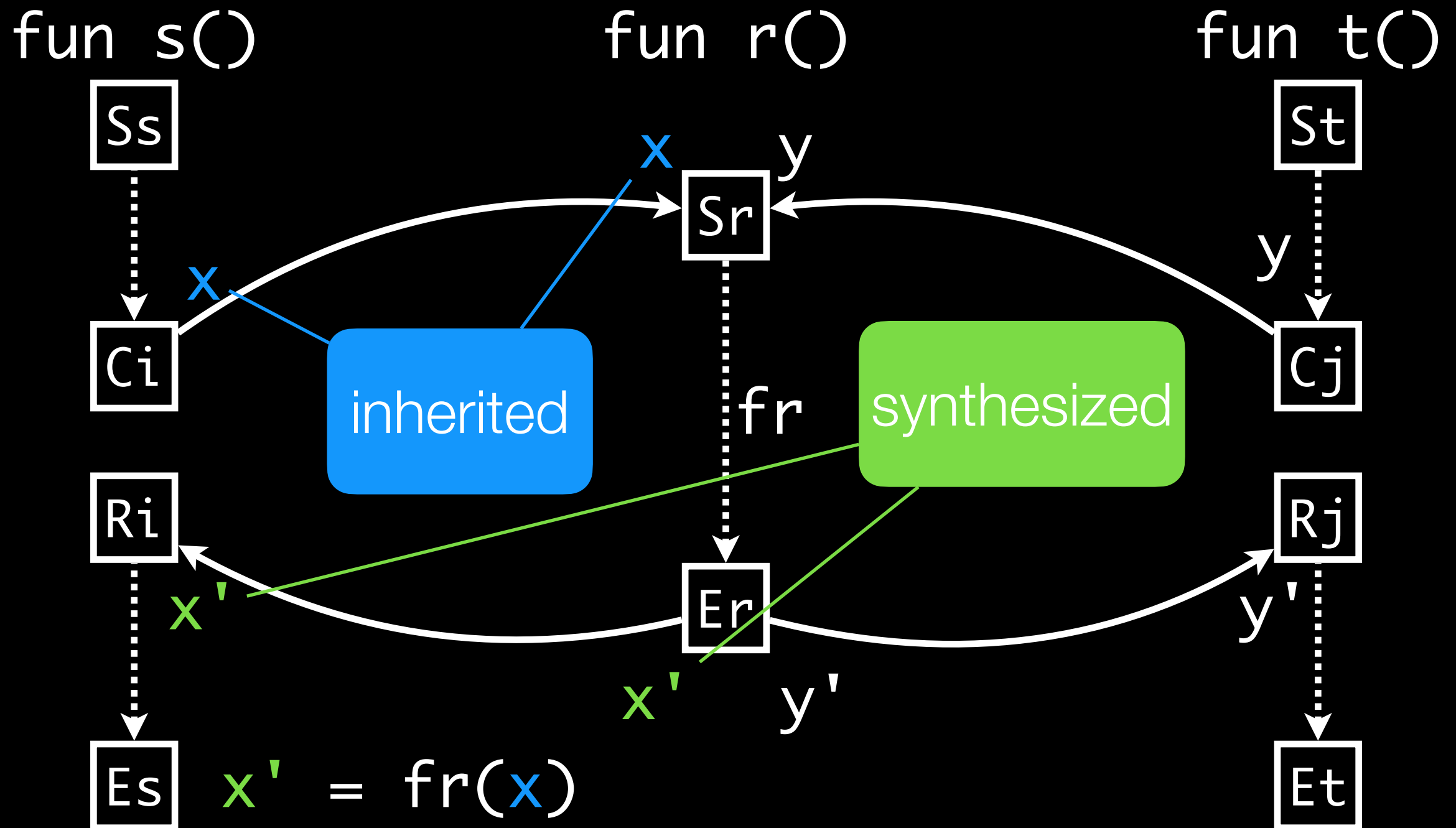
Inter-Procedural Data-Flow Analysis



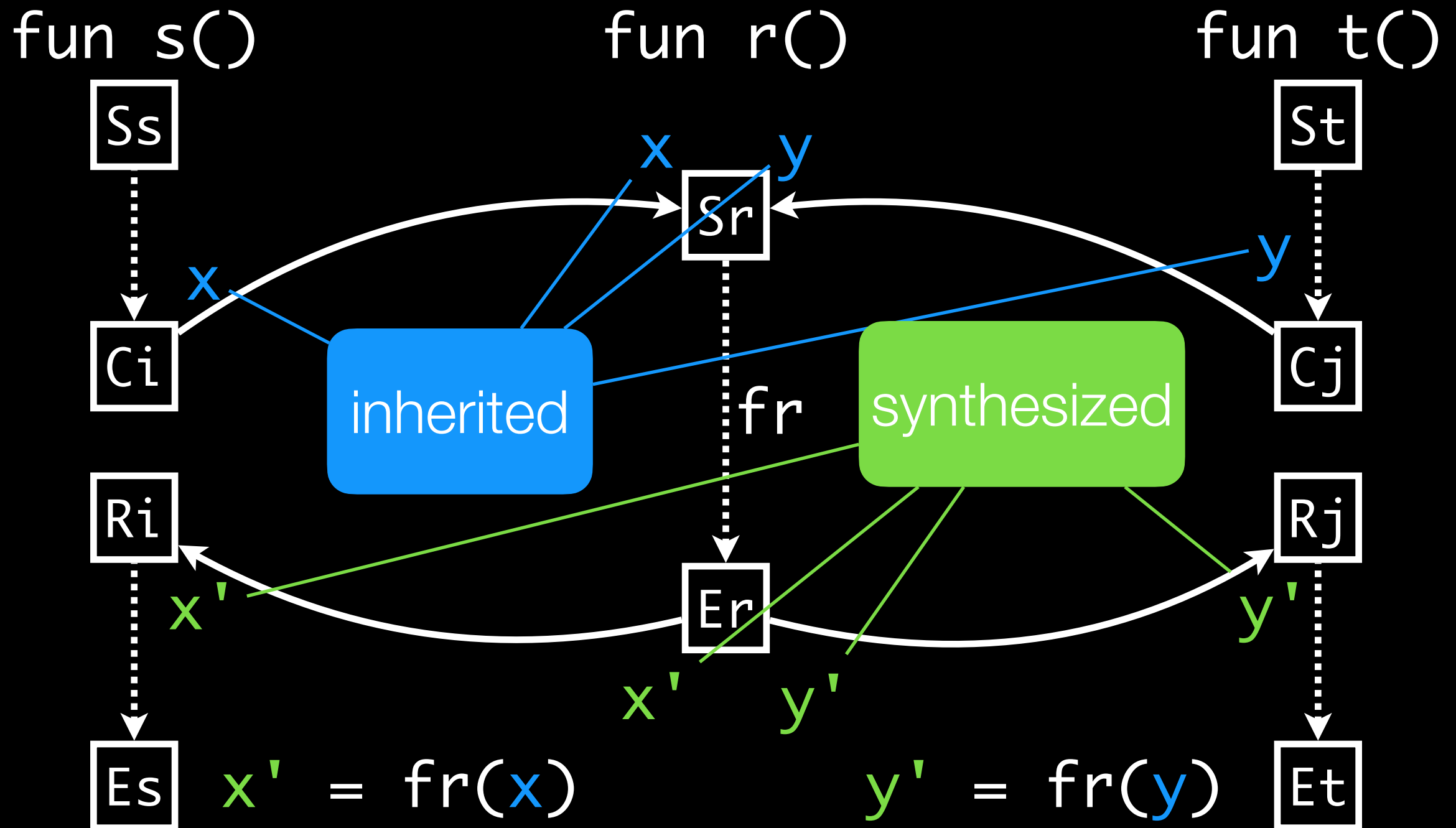
Inter-Procedural Data-Flow Analysis



Inter-Procedural Data-Flow Analysis



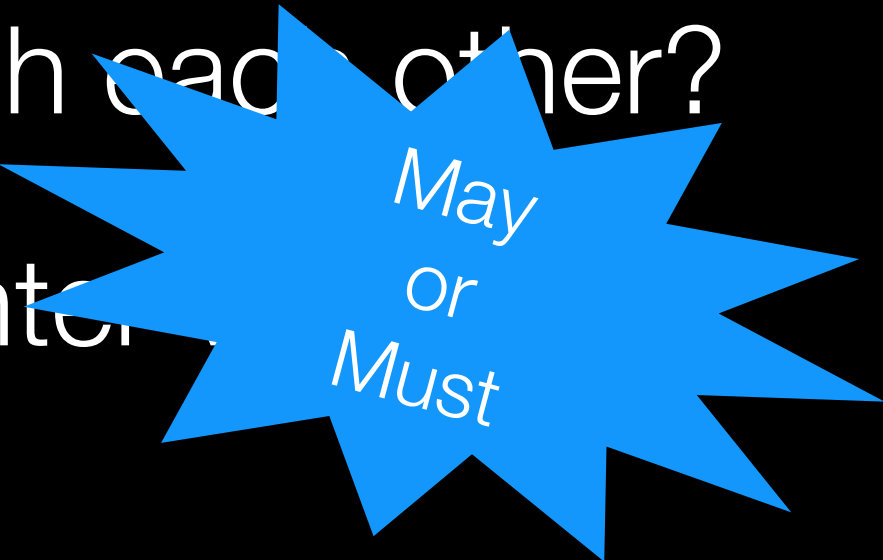
Inter-Procedural Data-Flow Analysis



Inherited vs Synthesized Analysis Information

Inherited Analysis Information

- Answering questions about formal parameters and global variables:
 - Which variables carry constant values?
 - Which variables aliased with each other?
 - Which locations can a pointer point to?



May
or
Must

Synthesized Analysis Information

- Answering questions about side-effects of a procedure call:
 - Which local/global/formal variables are defined in a callee?
 - Which local/global/formal variables are used by a callee?

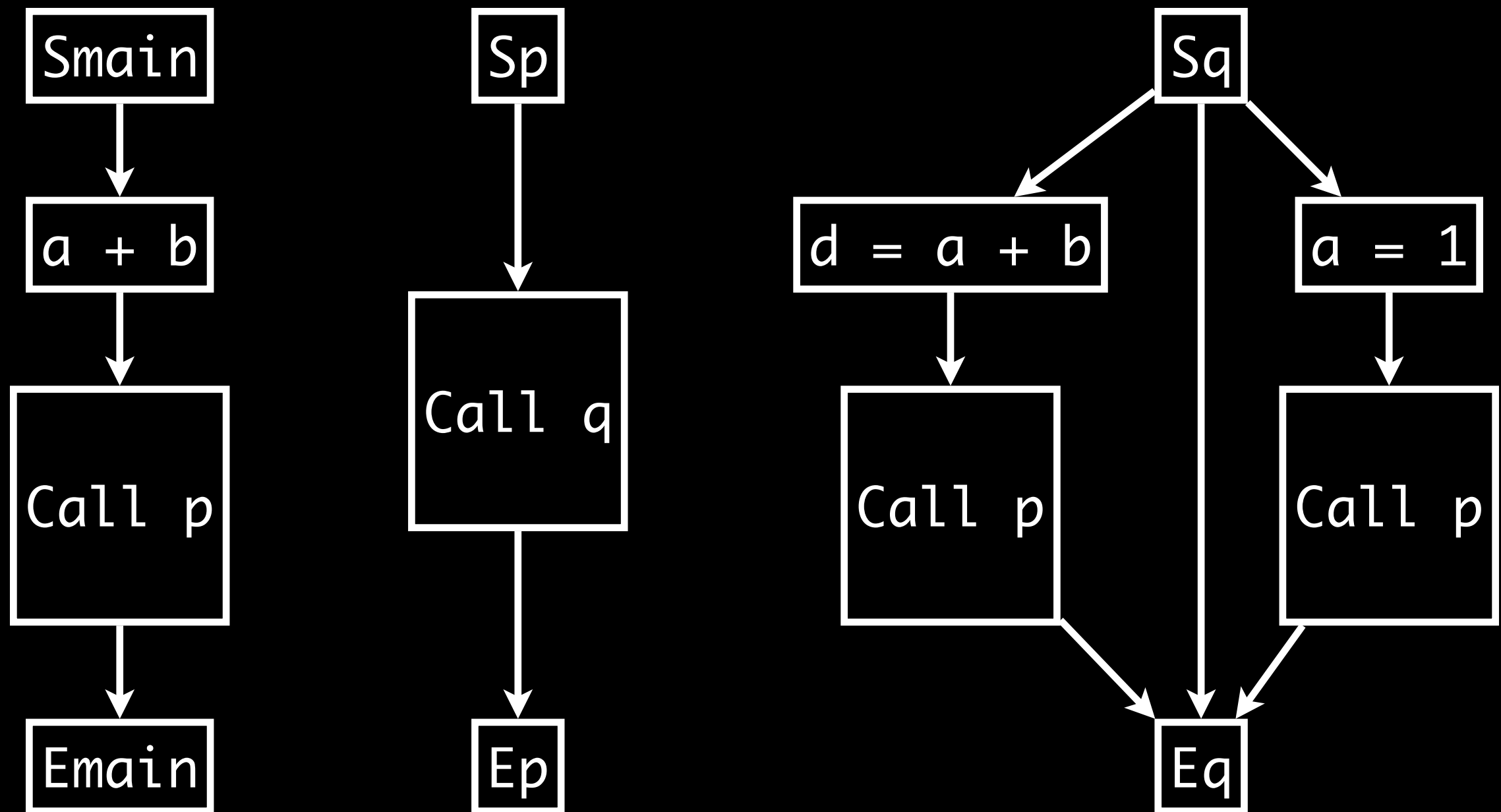


May
or
Must

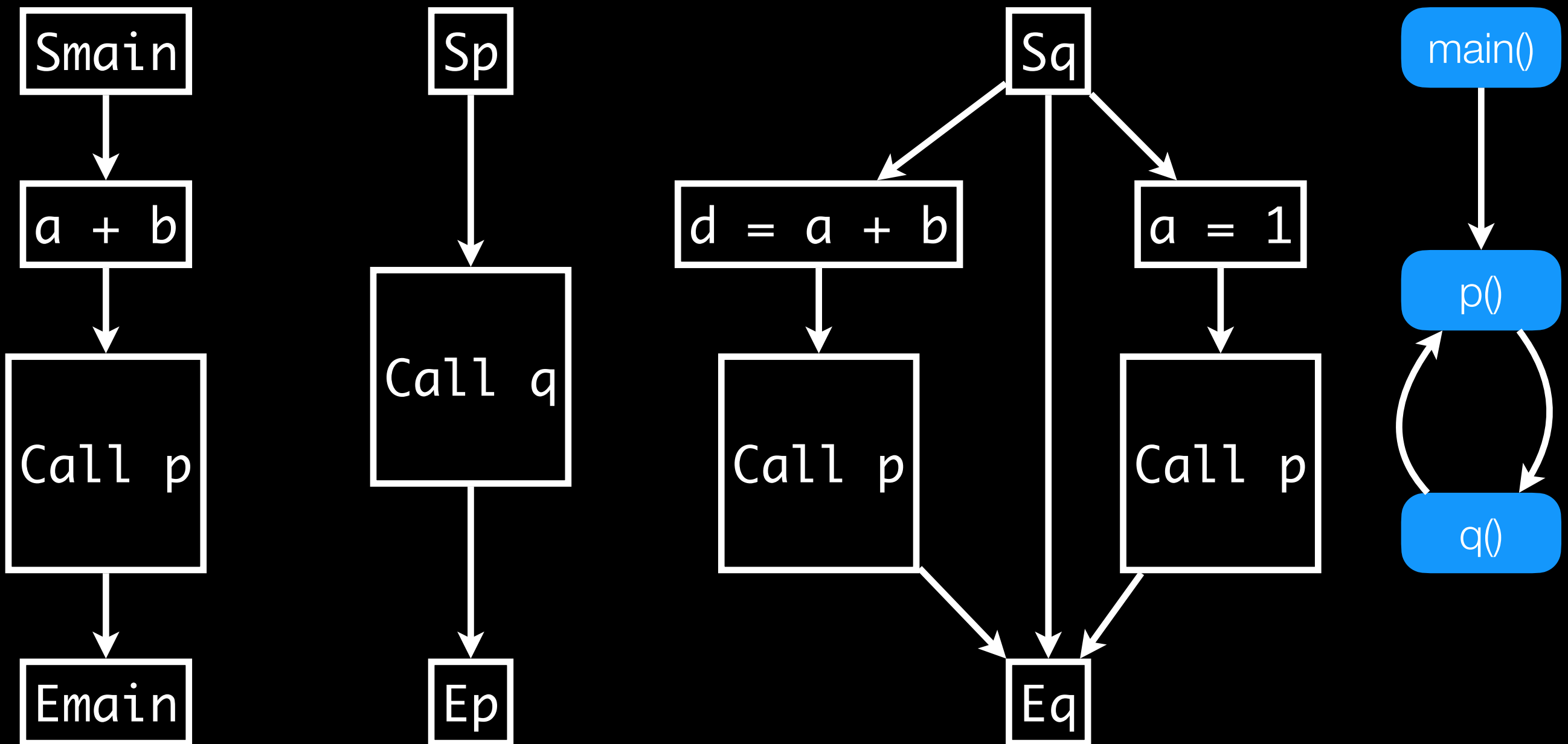
Inter-Procedural Control-Flow Graph (ICFG)

aka “program super-graph”

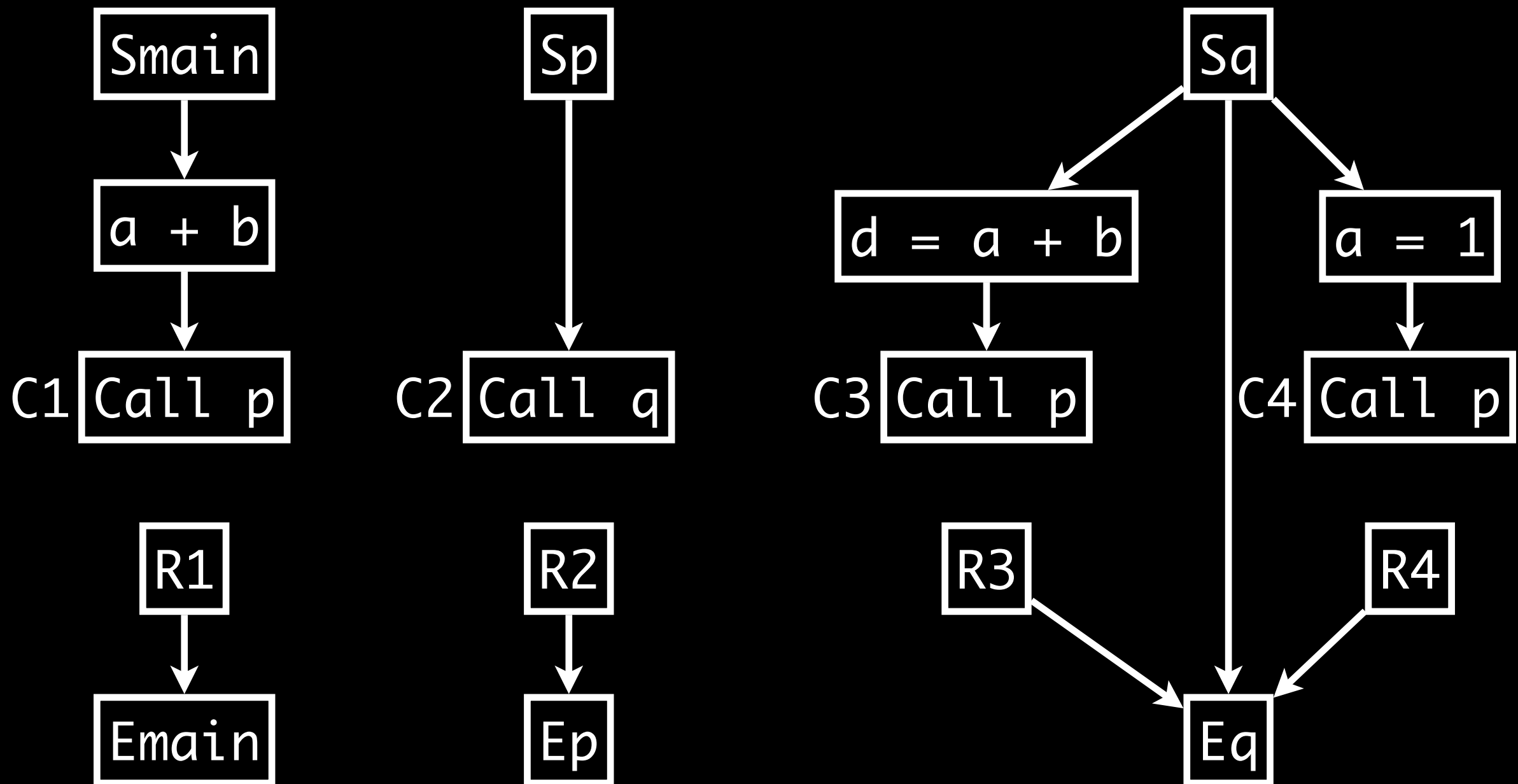
Procedure Space



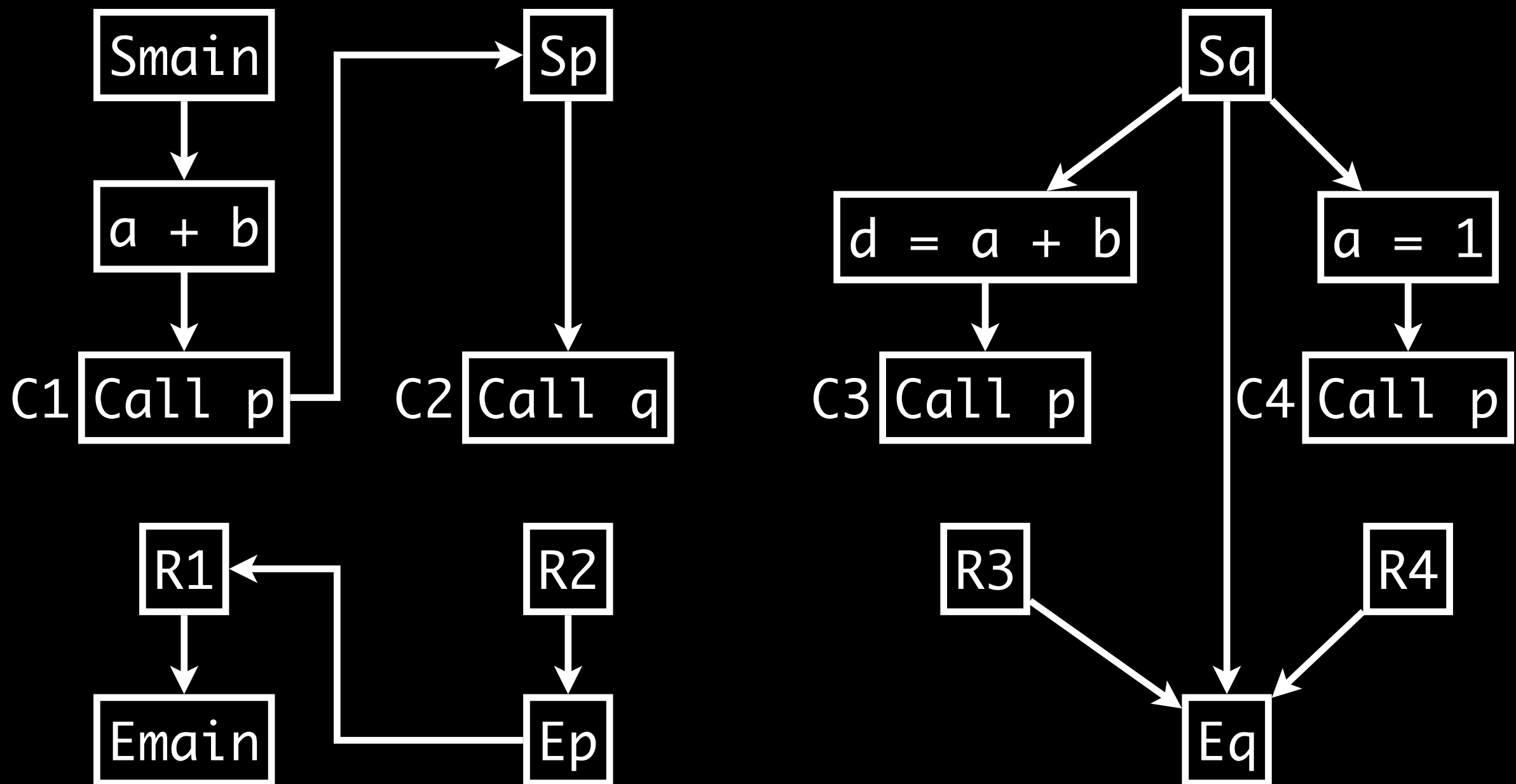
Call Graph



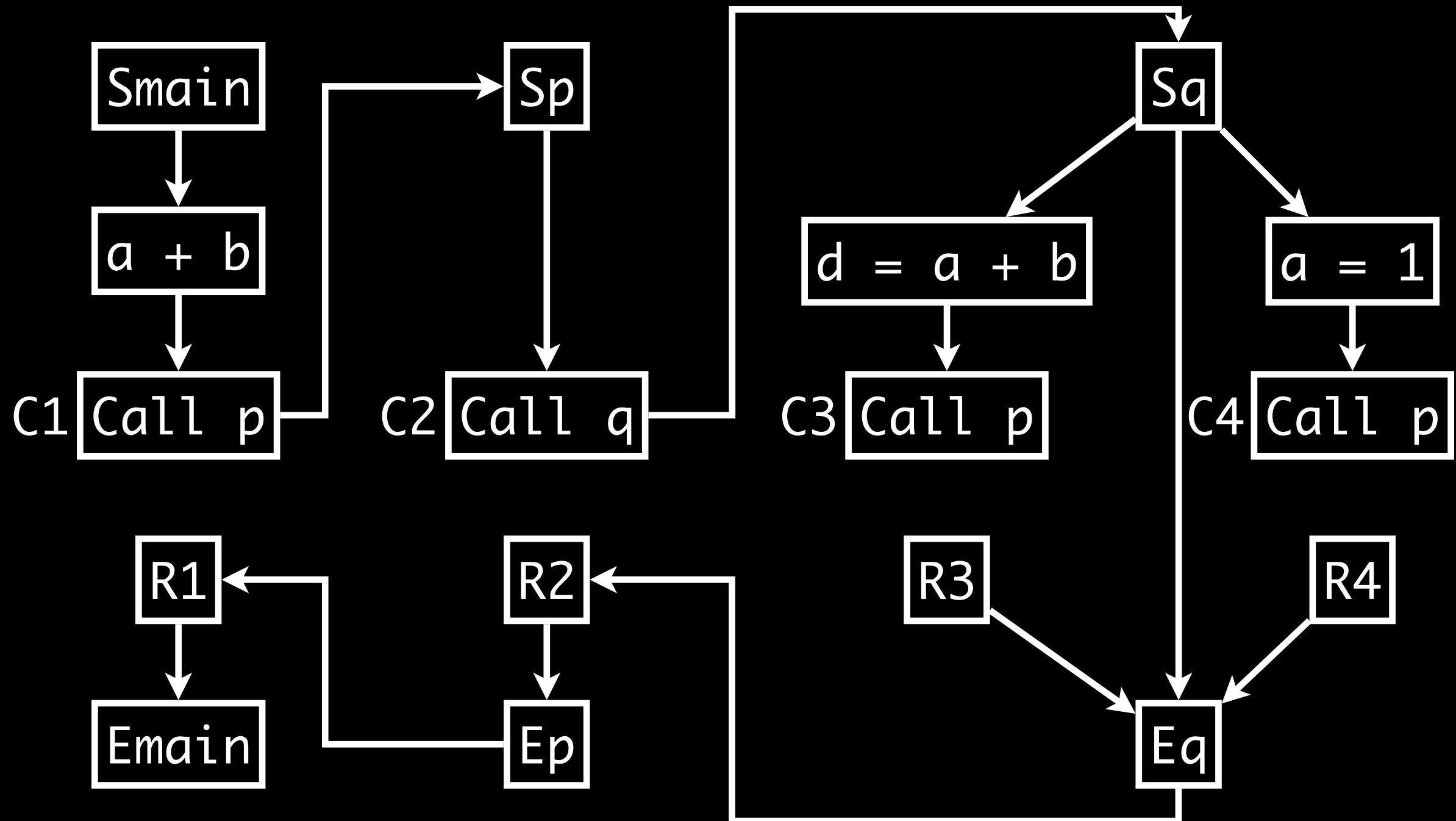
Introduce Return Sites



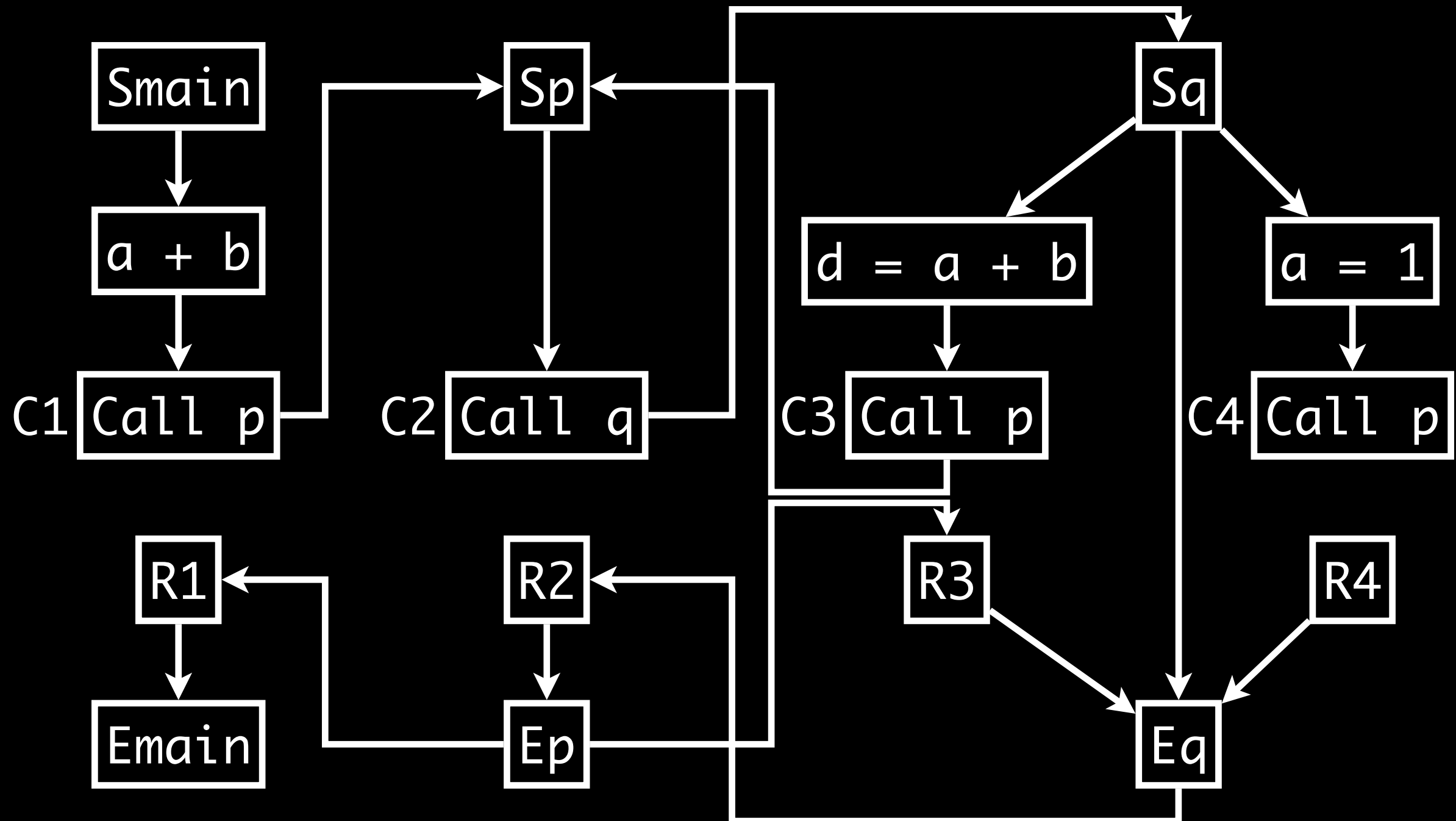
Caller-Callee Relationships



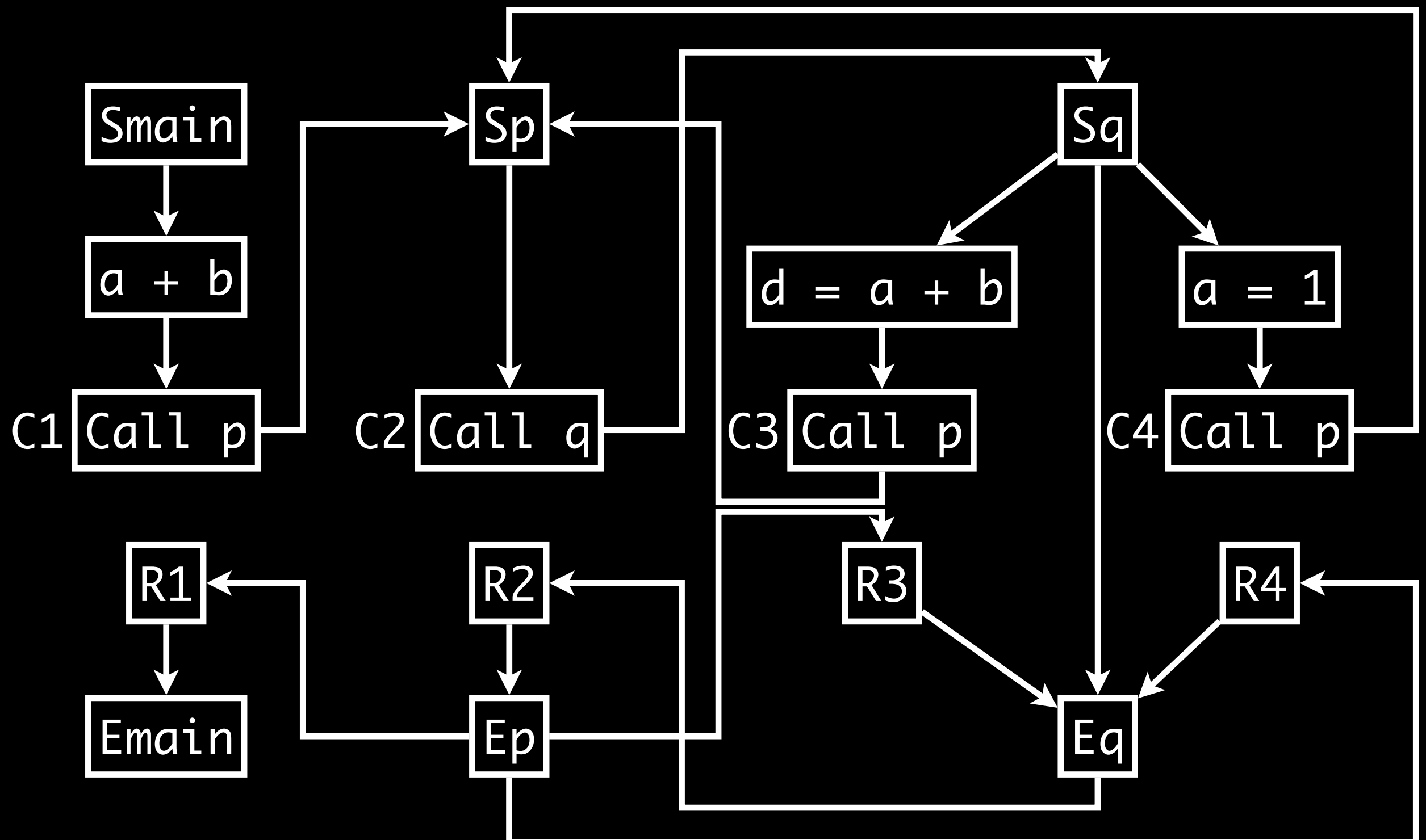
Caller-Callee Relationships



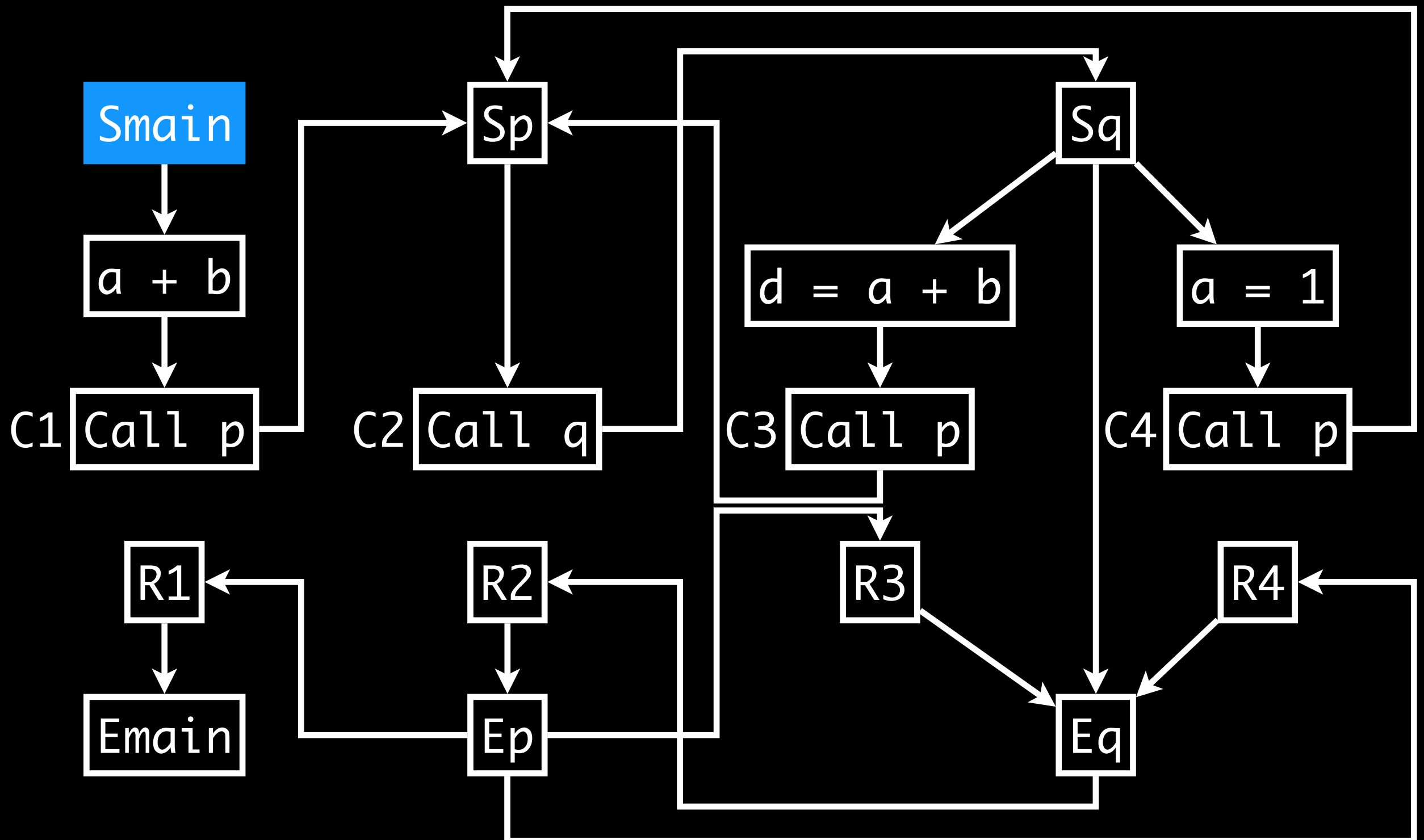
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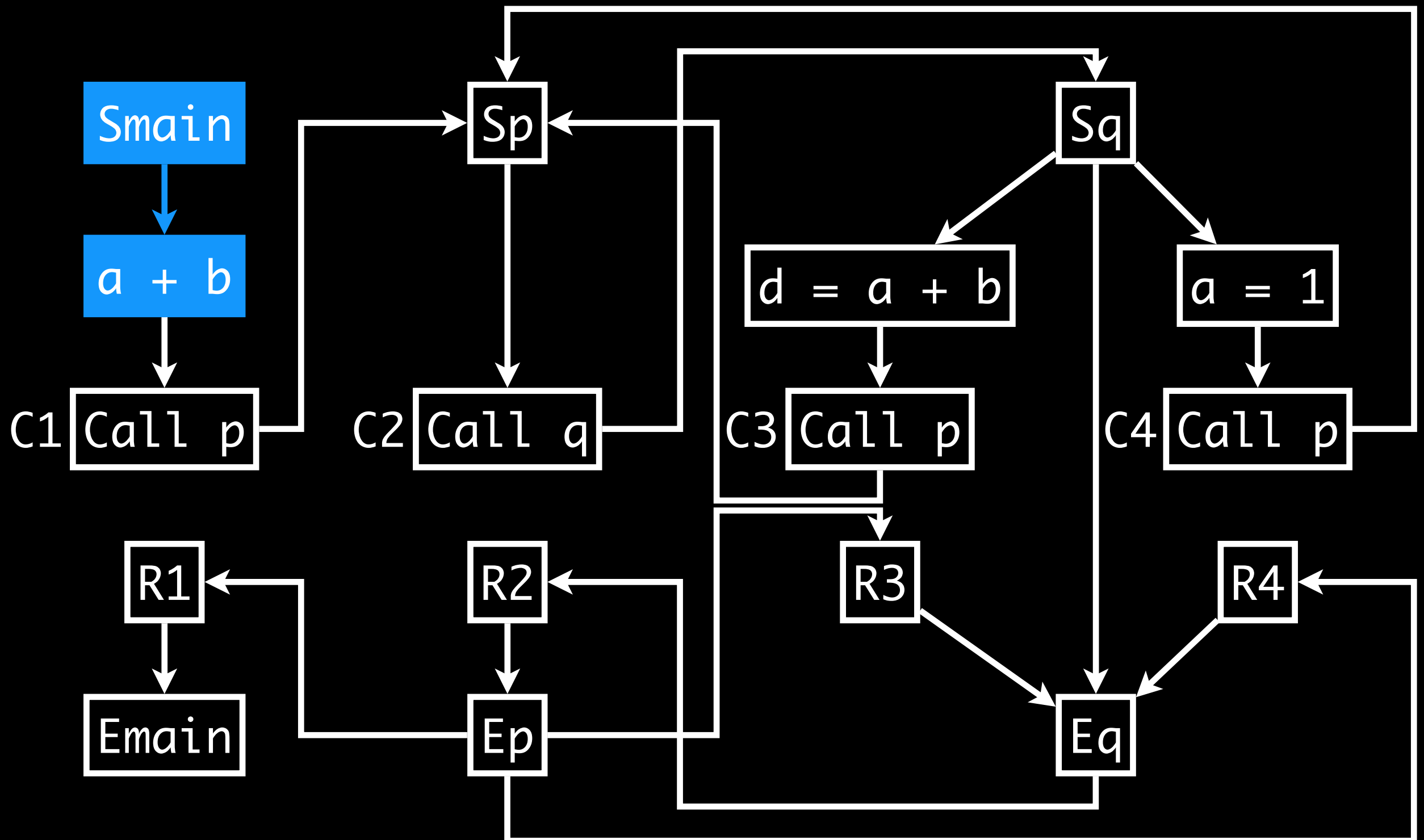
Caller-Callee Relationships



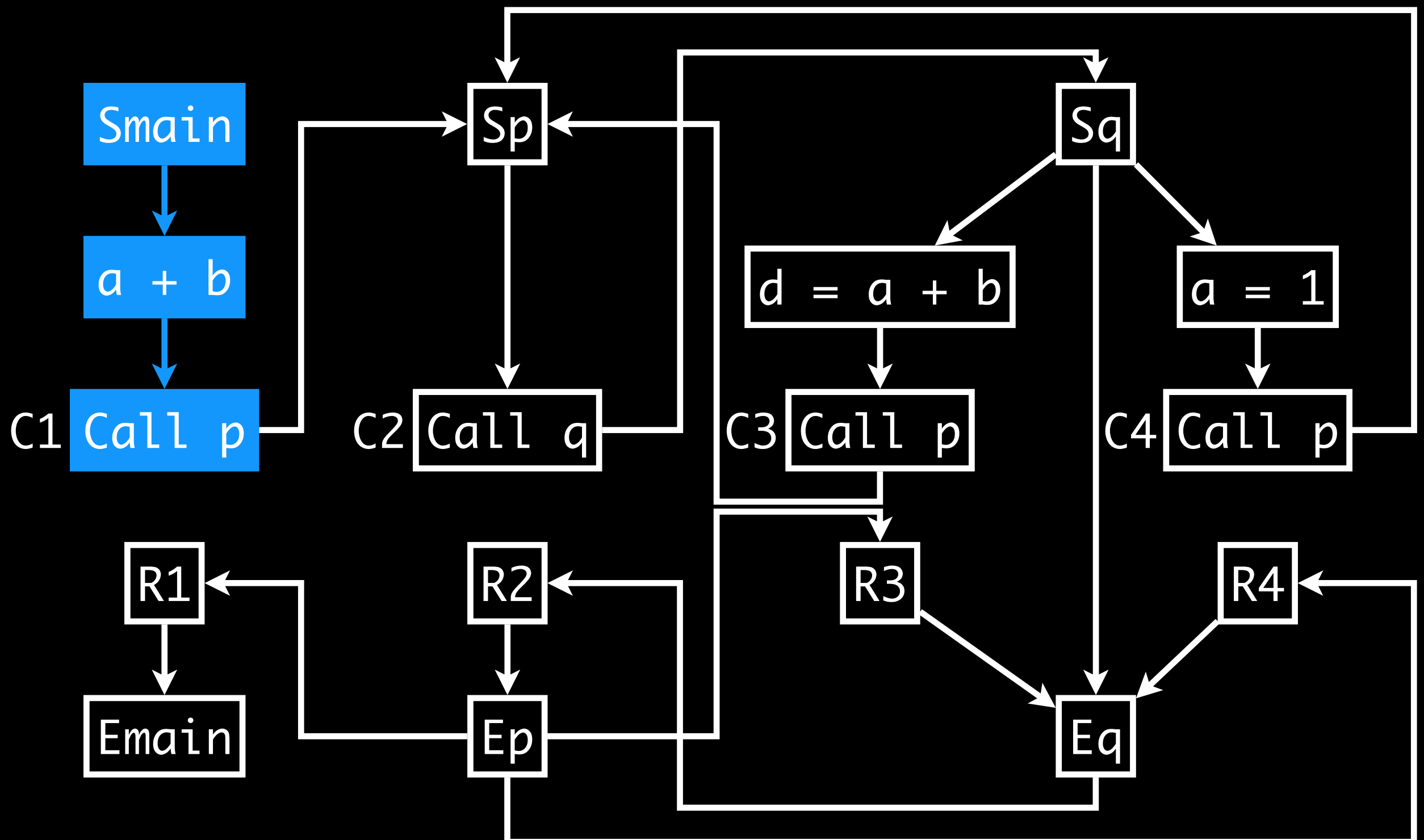
Valid/Realizable Path



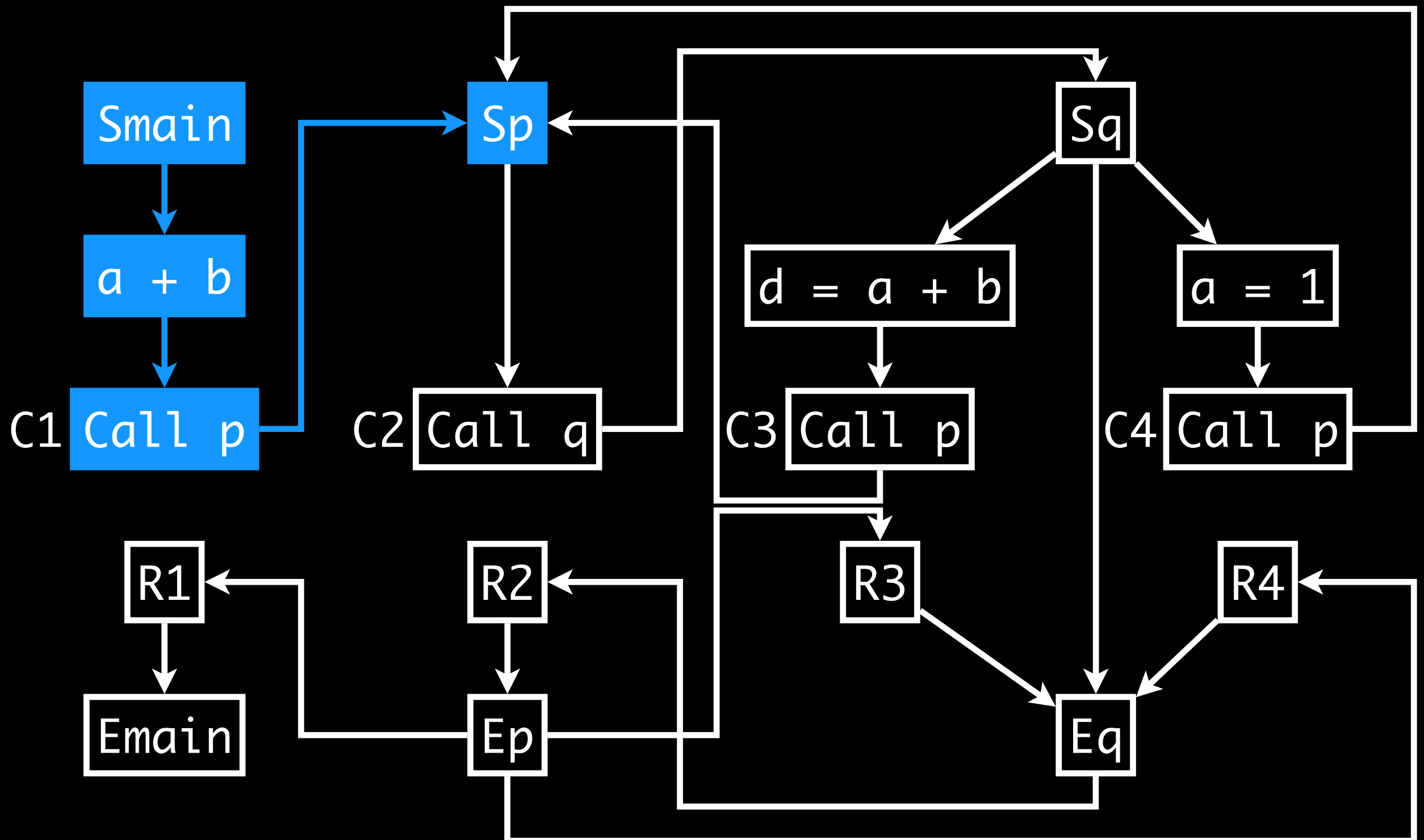
Valid/Realizable Path



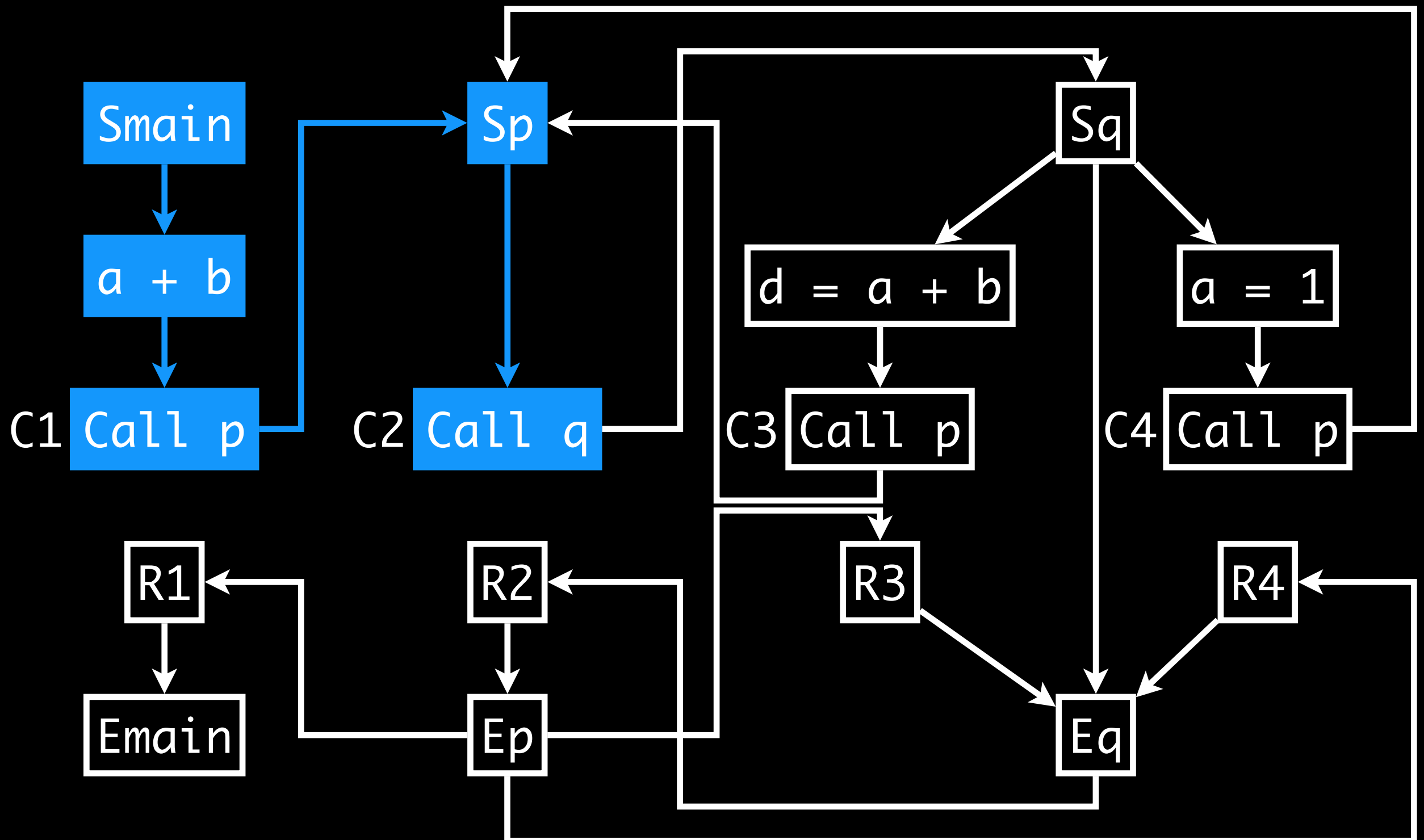
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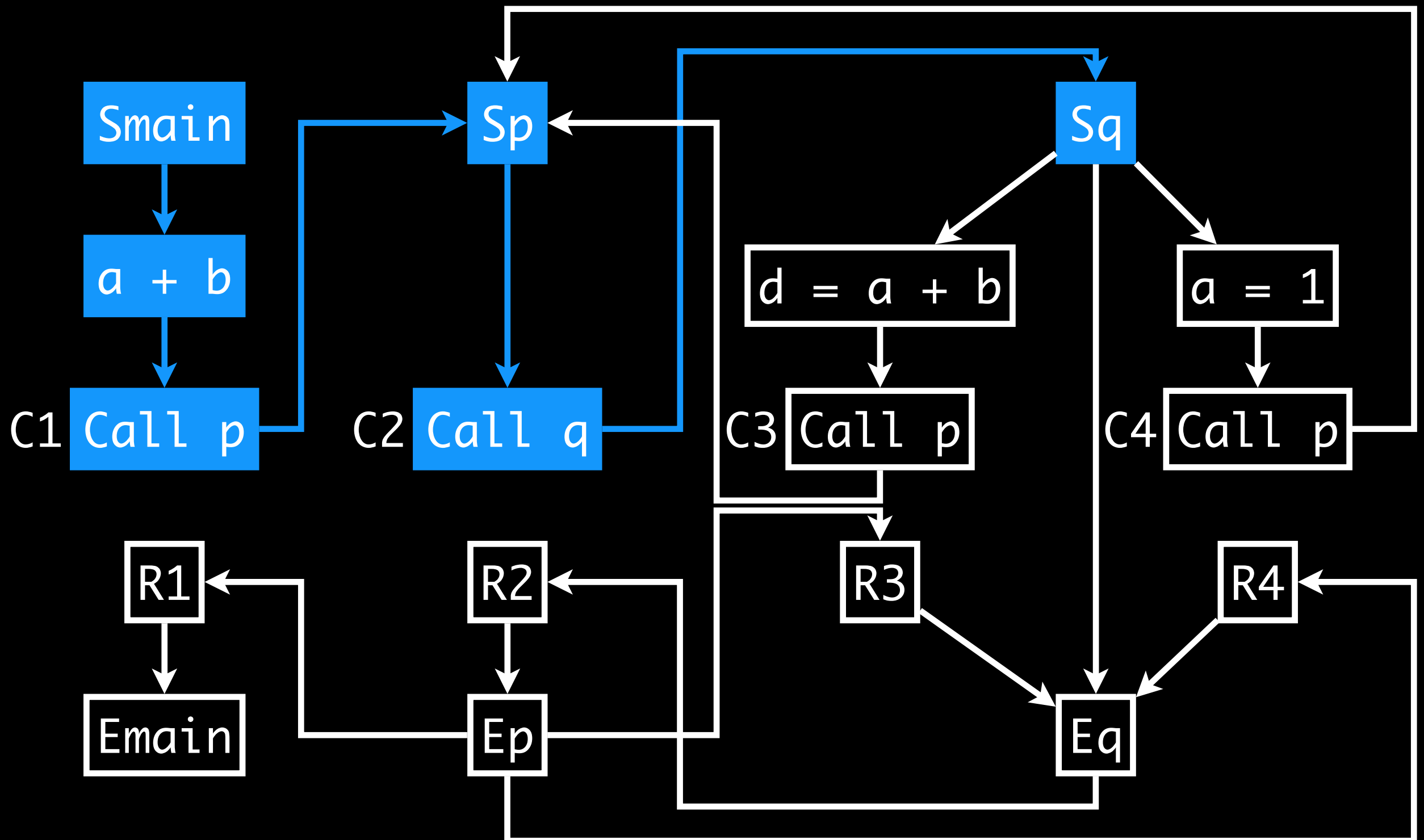
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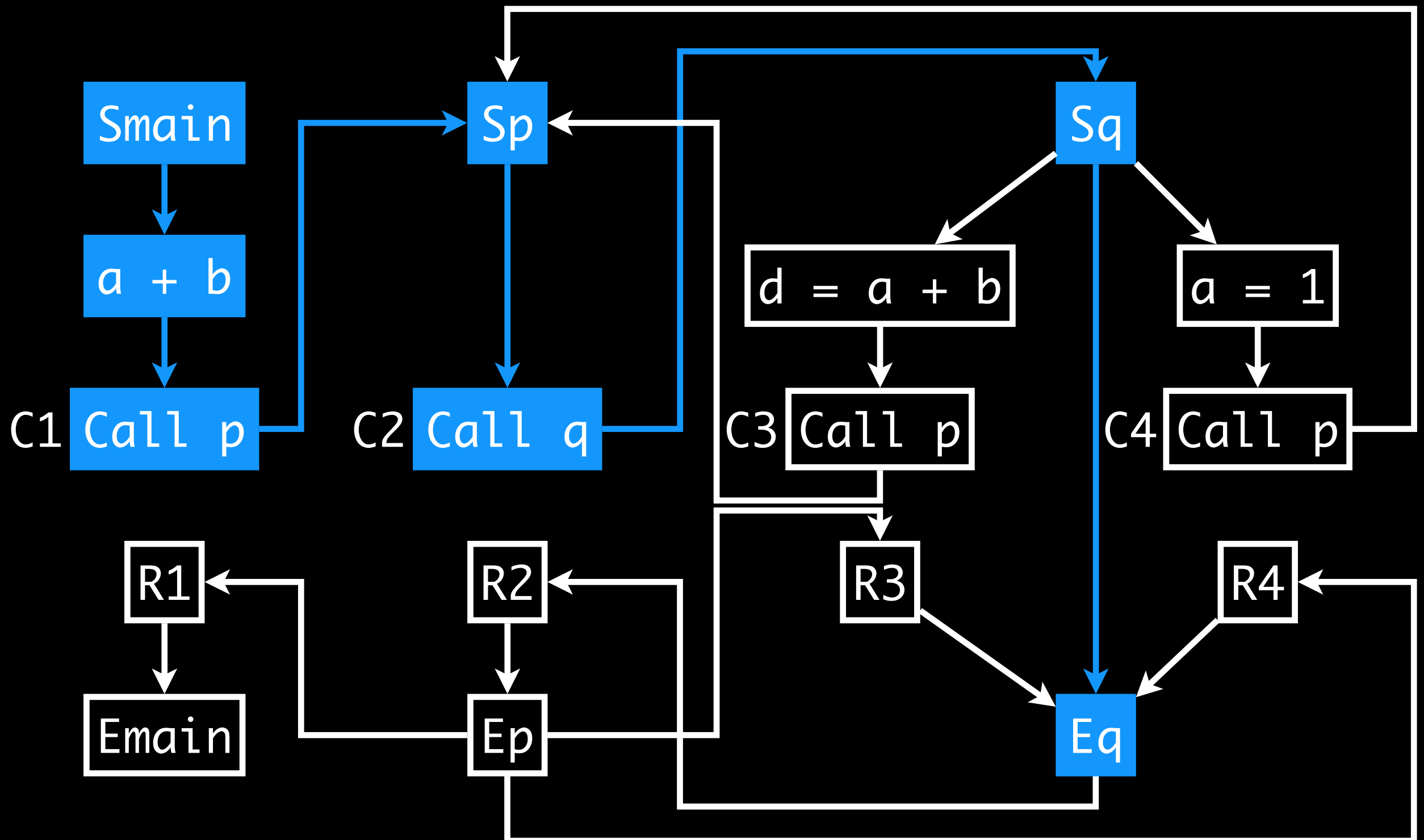
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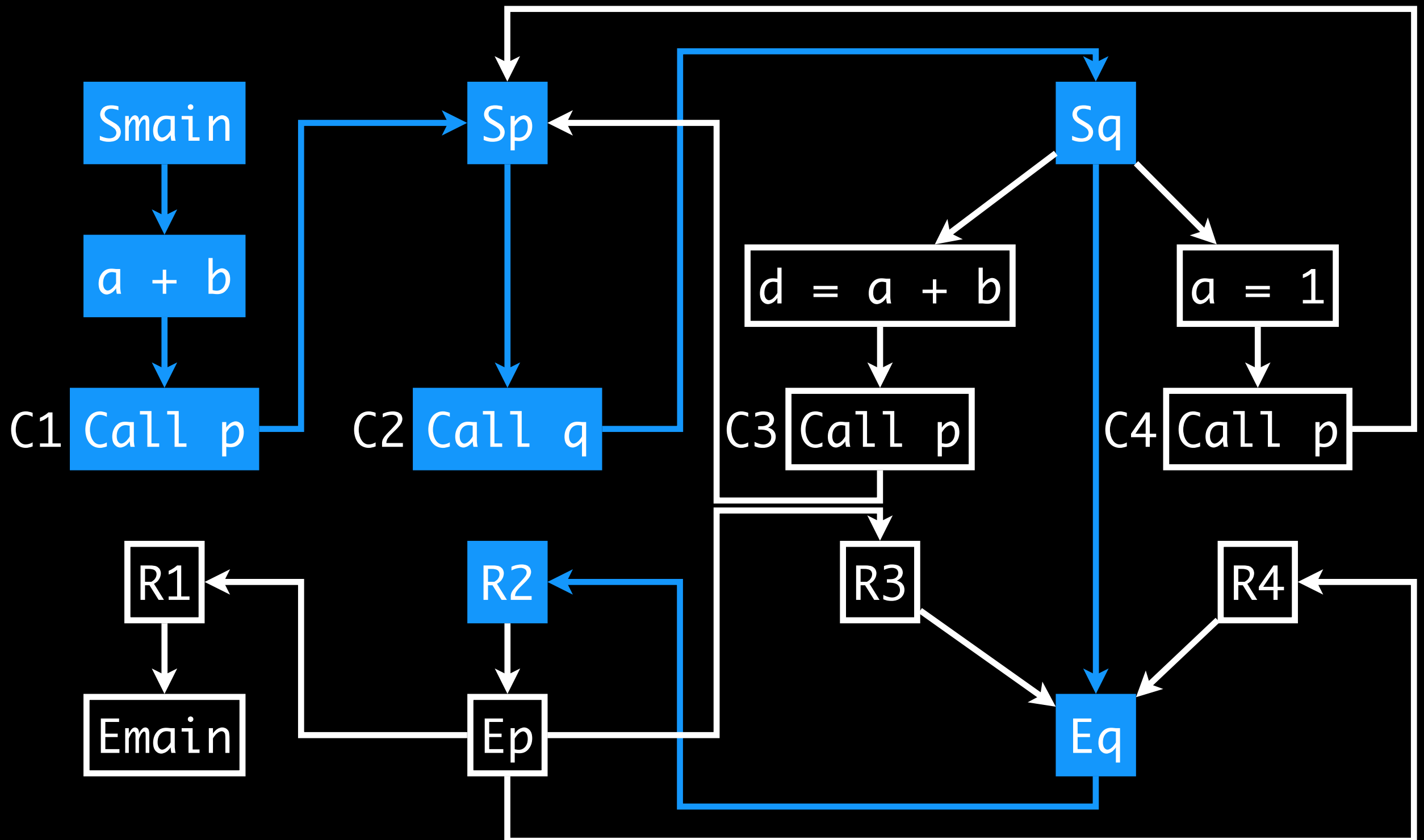
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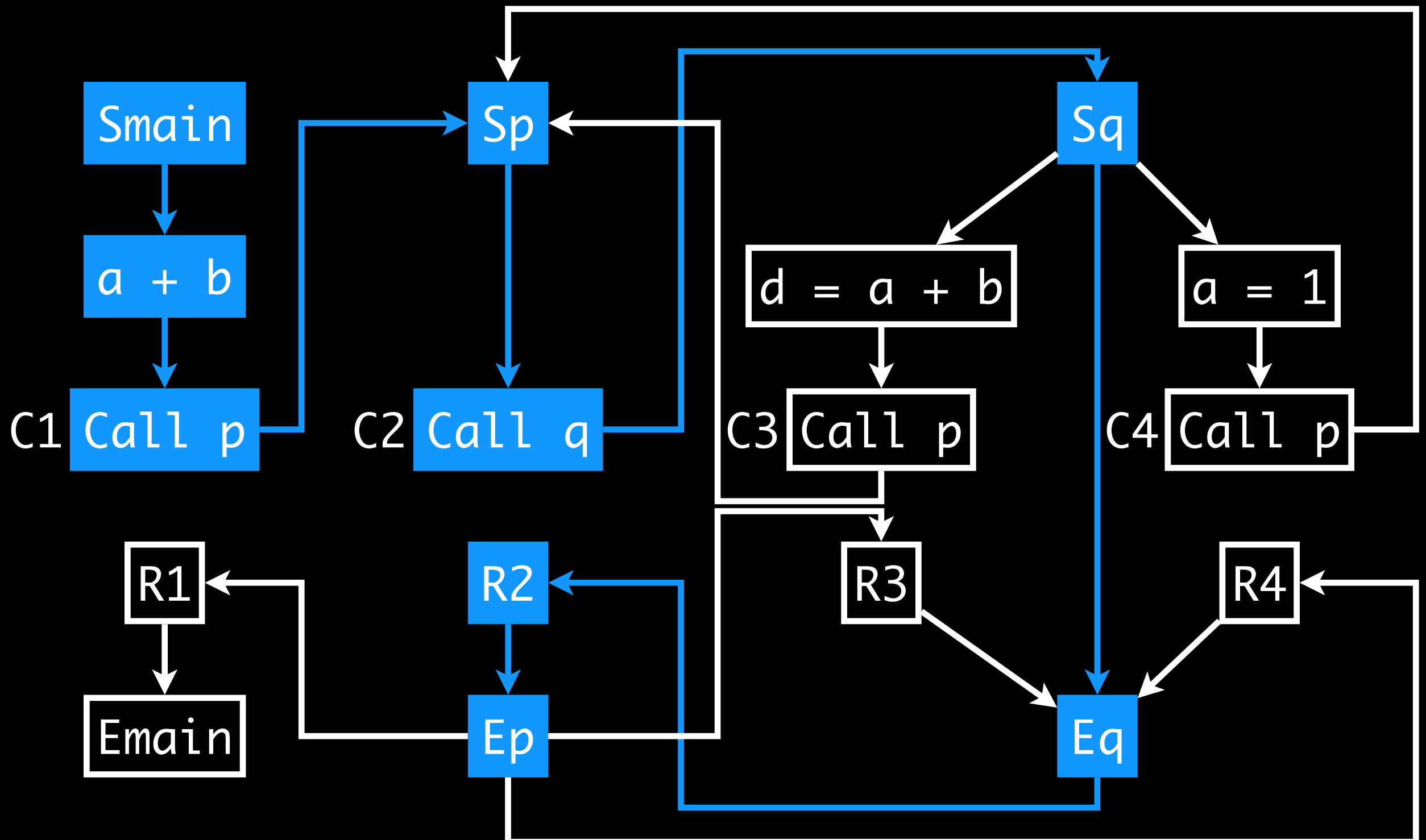
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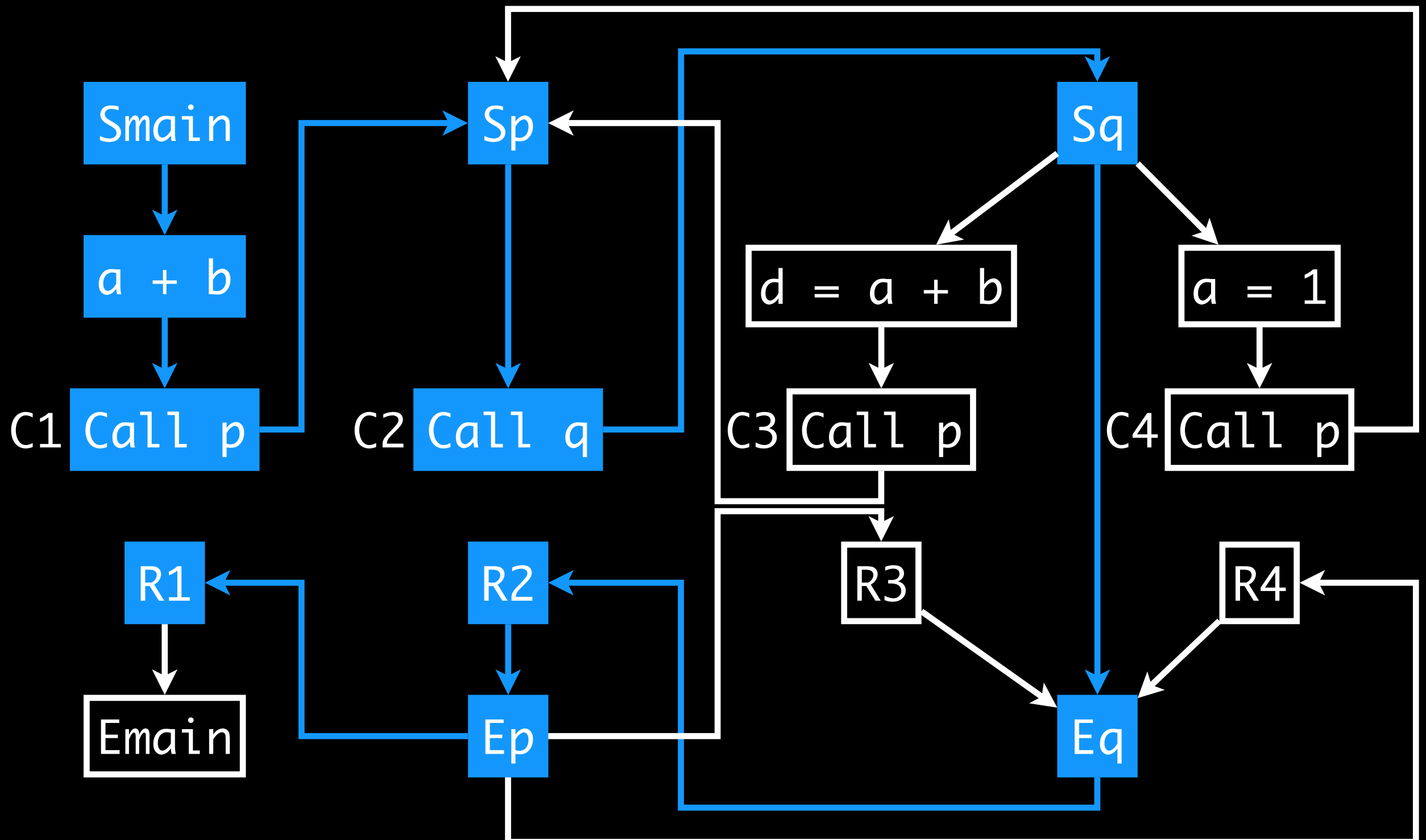
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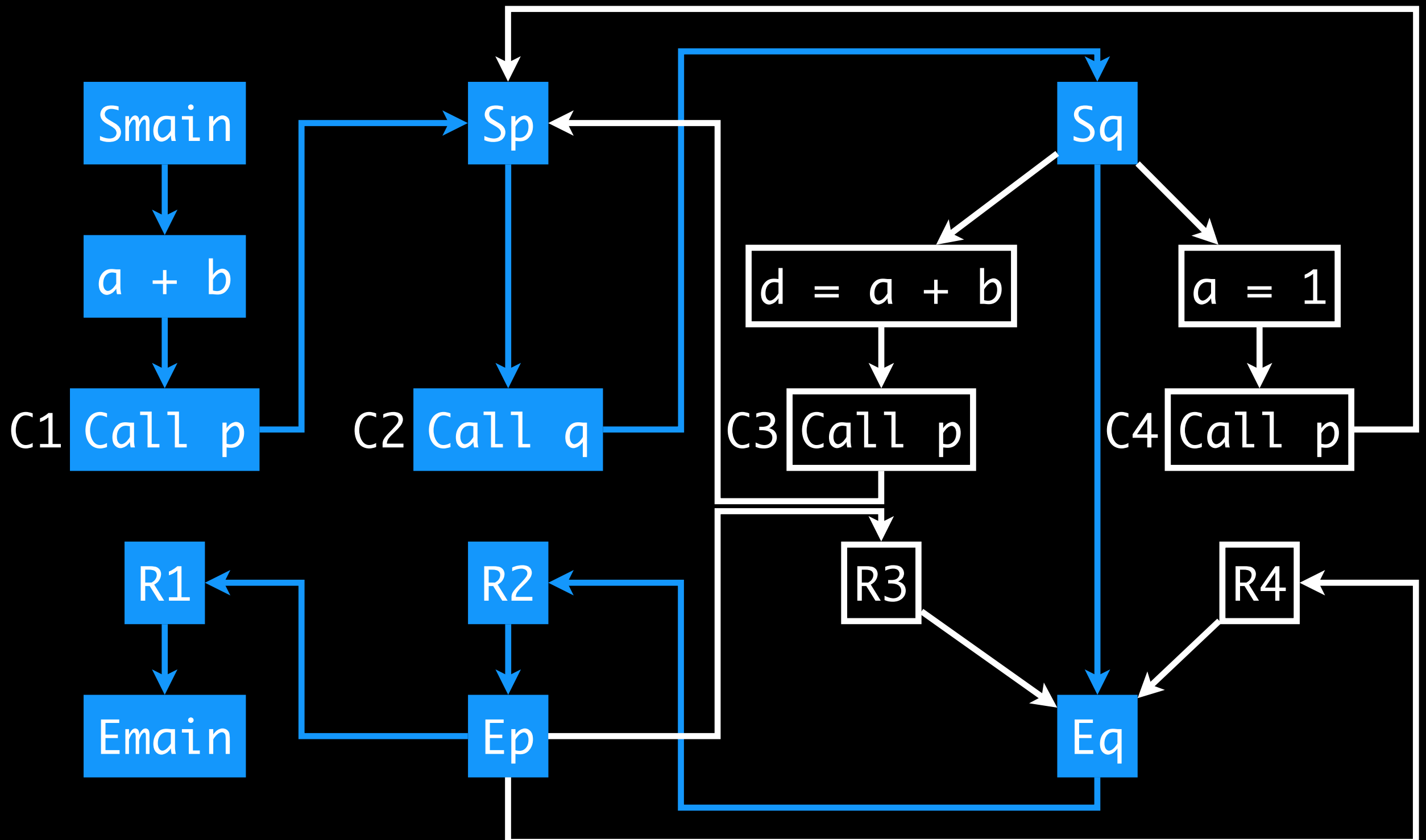
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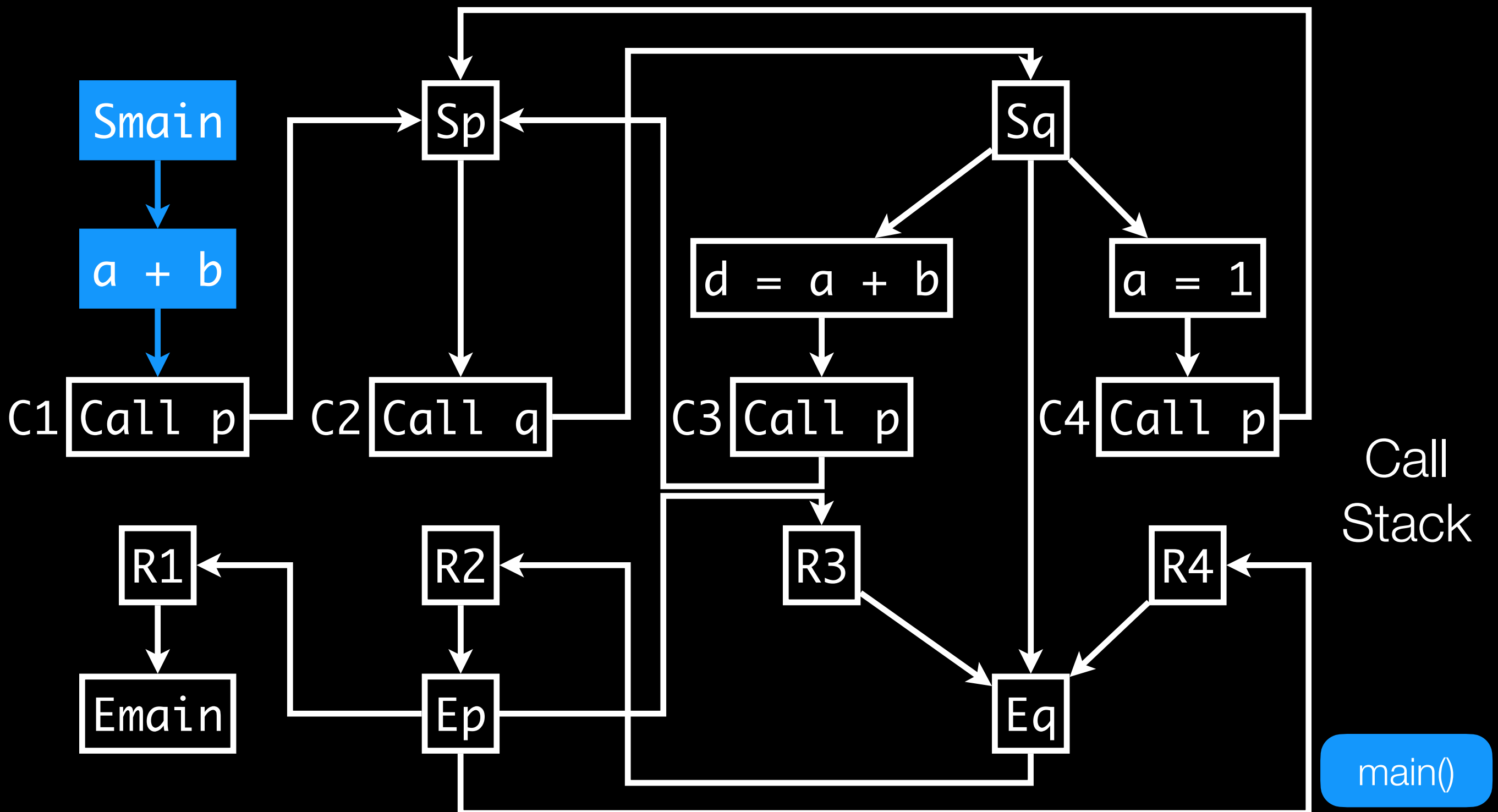
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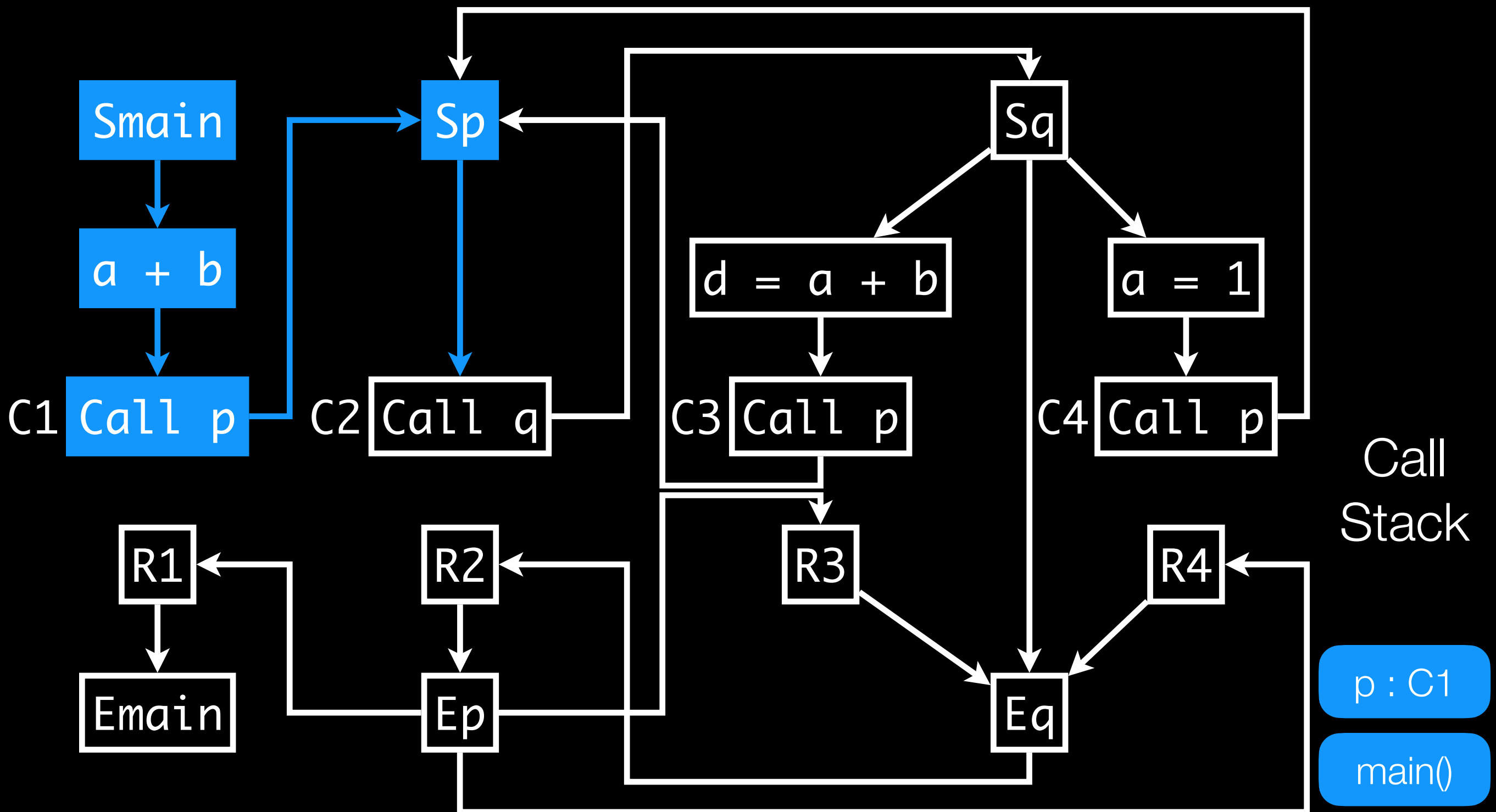
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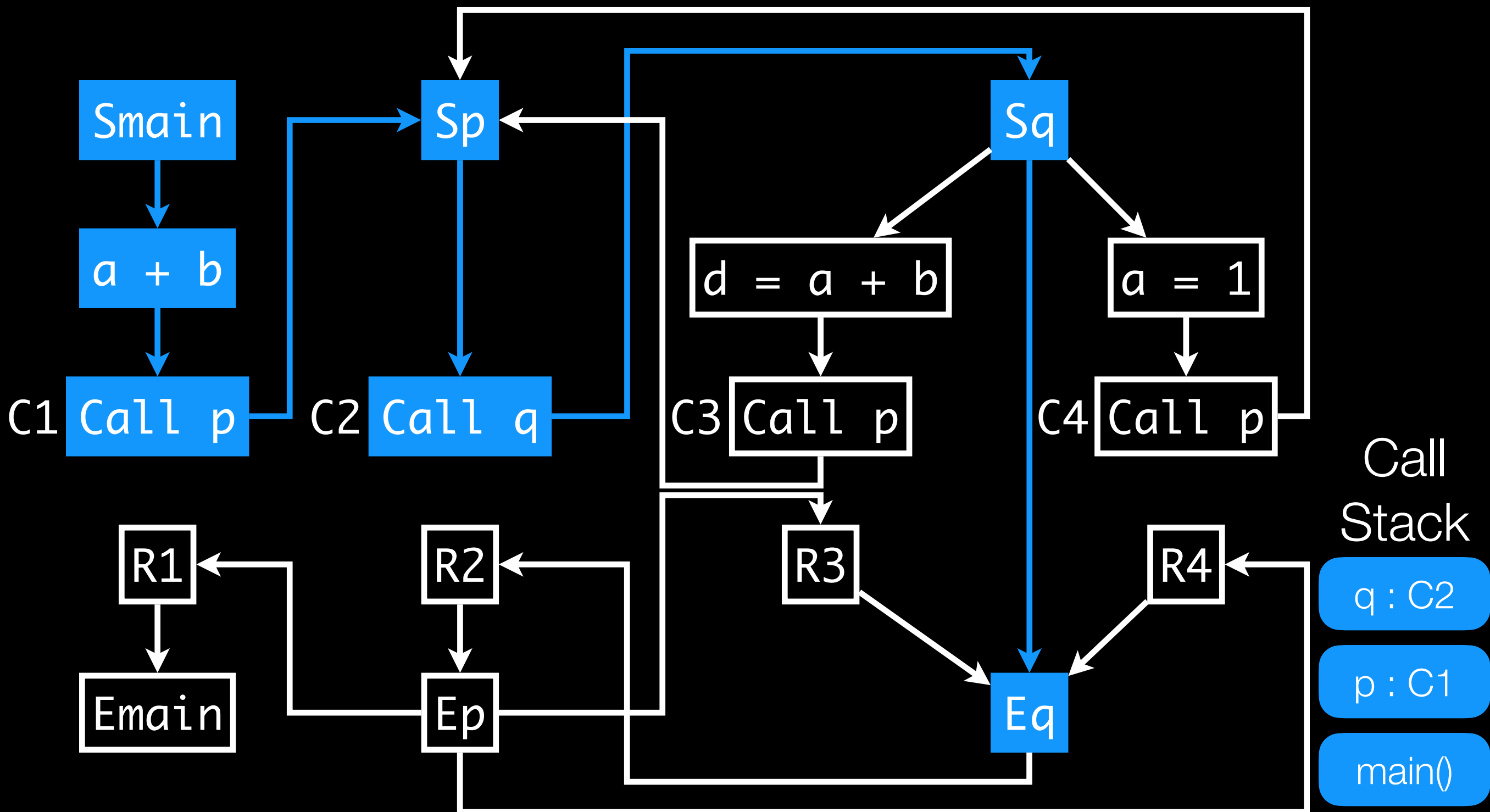
Valid/Realizable Path



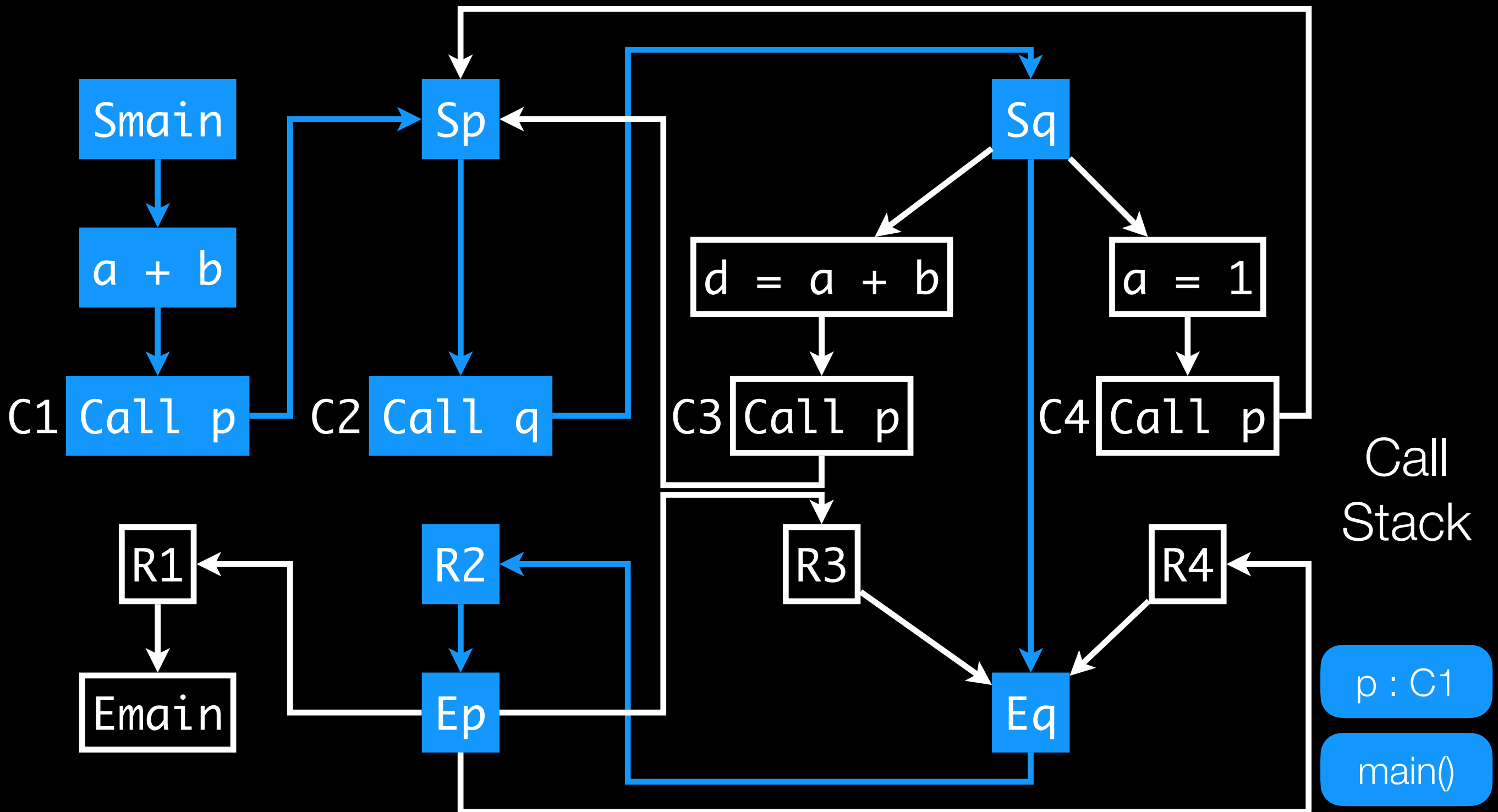
Valid/Realizable Path



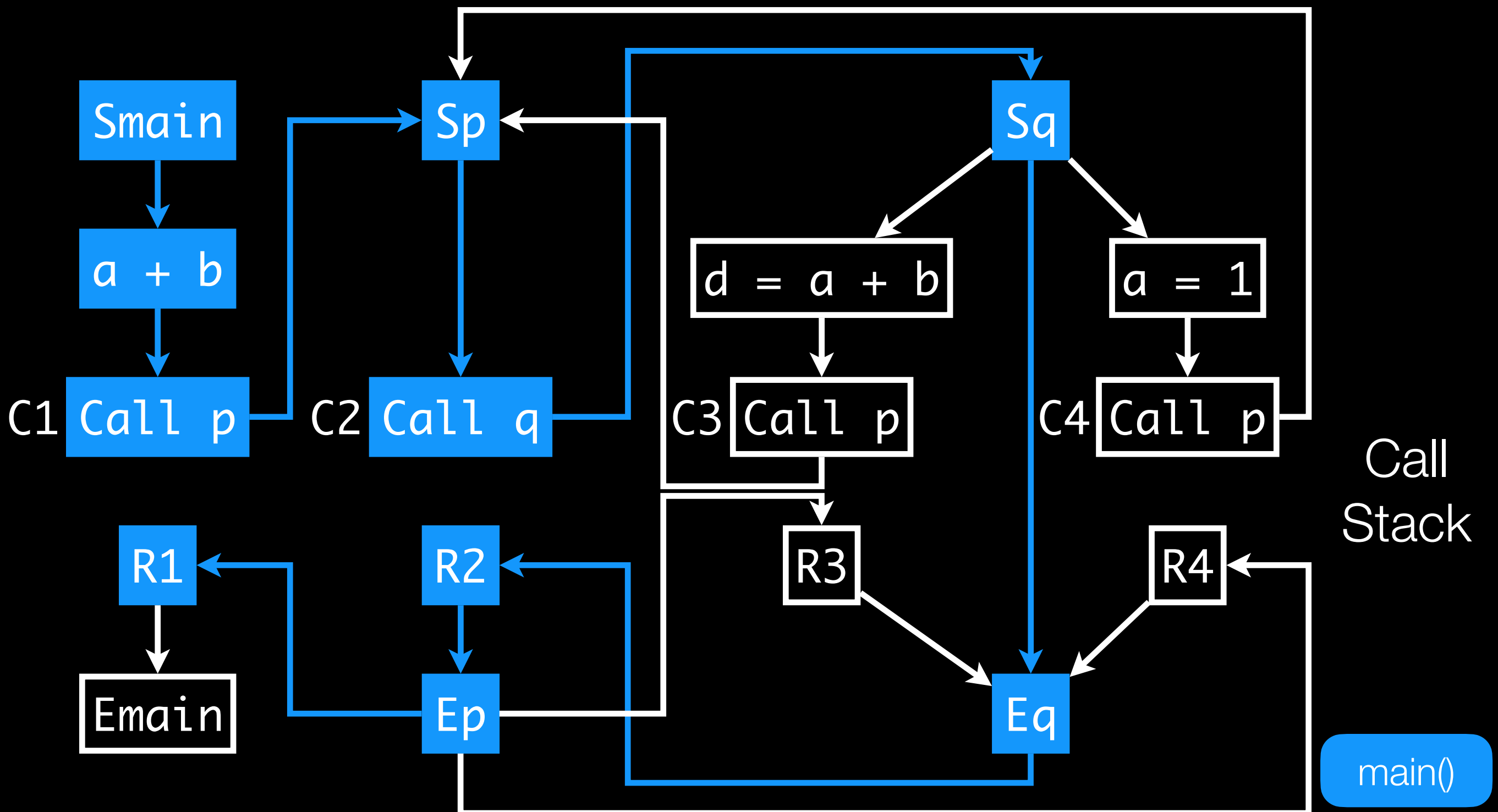
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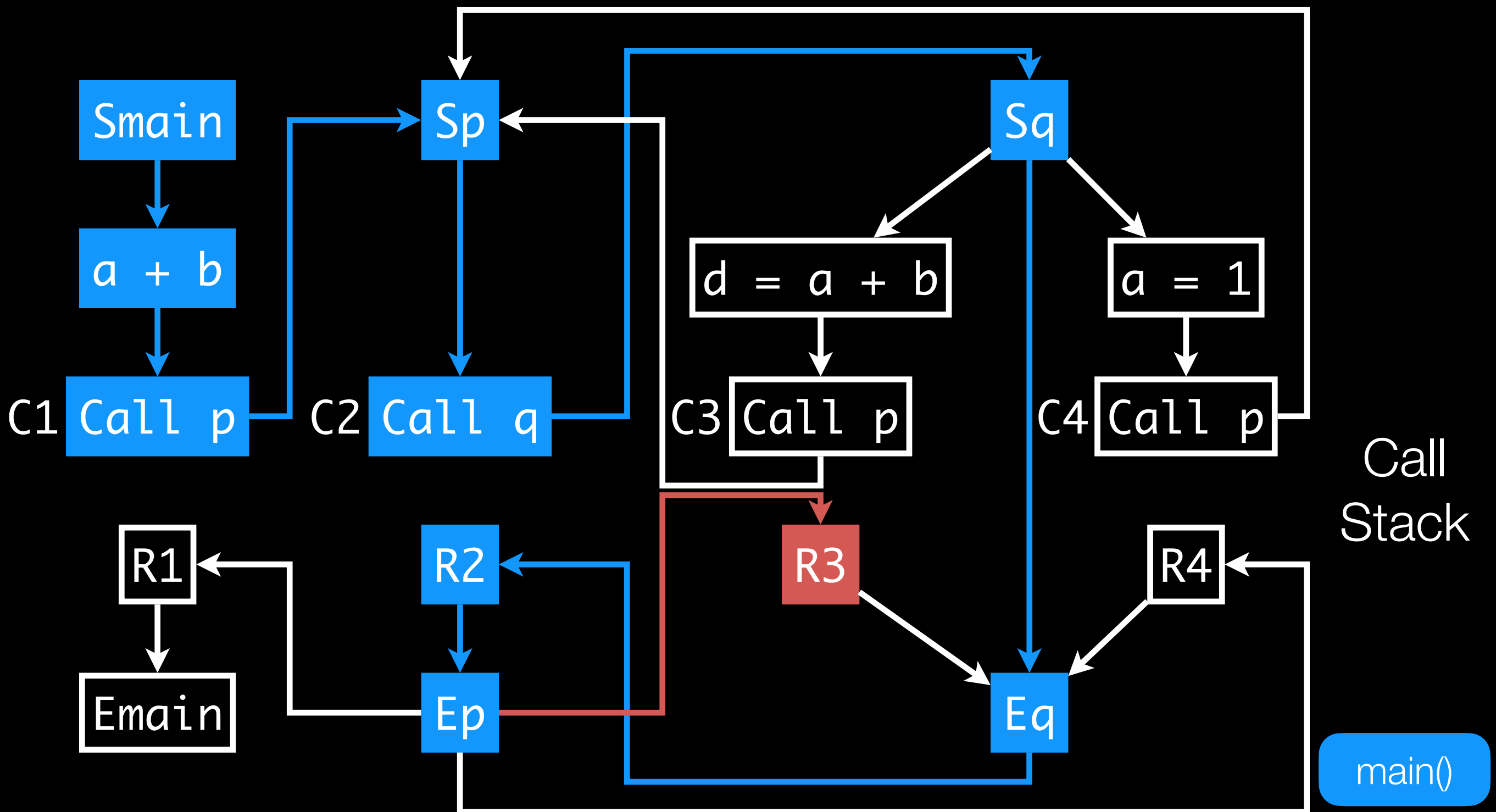
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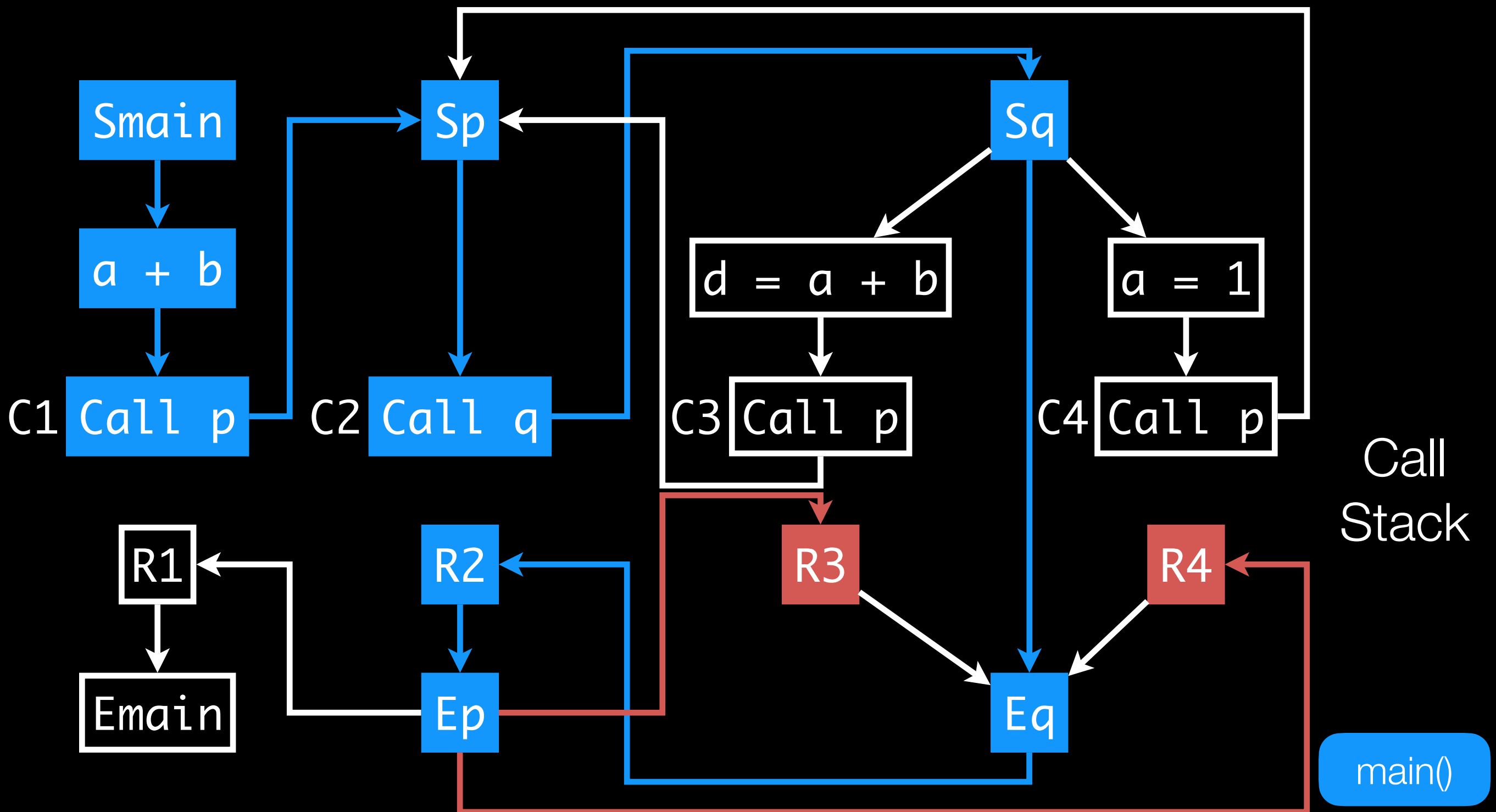
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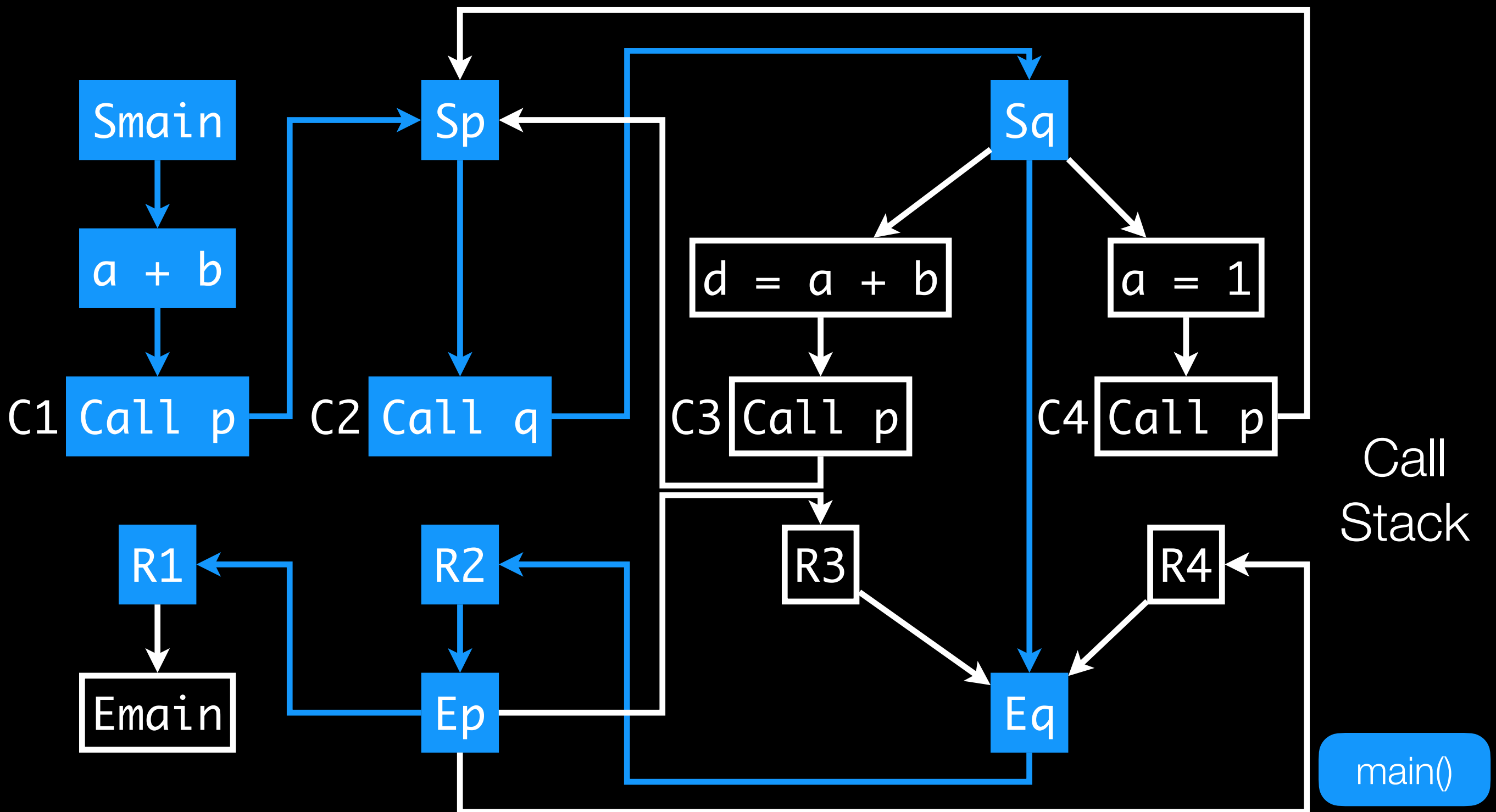
Valid/Realizable Path



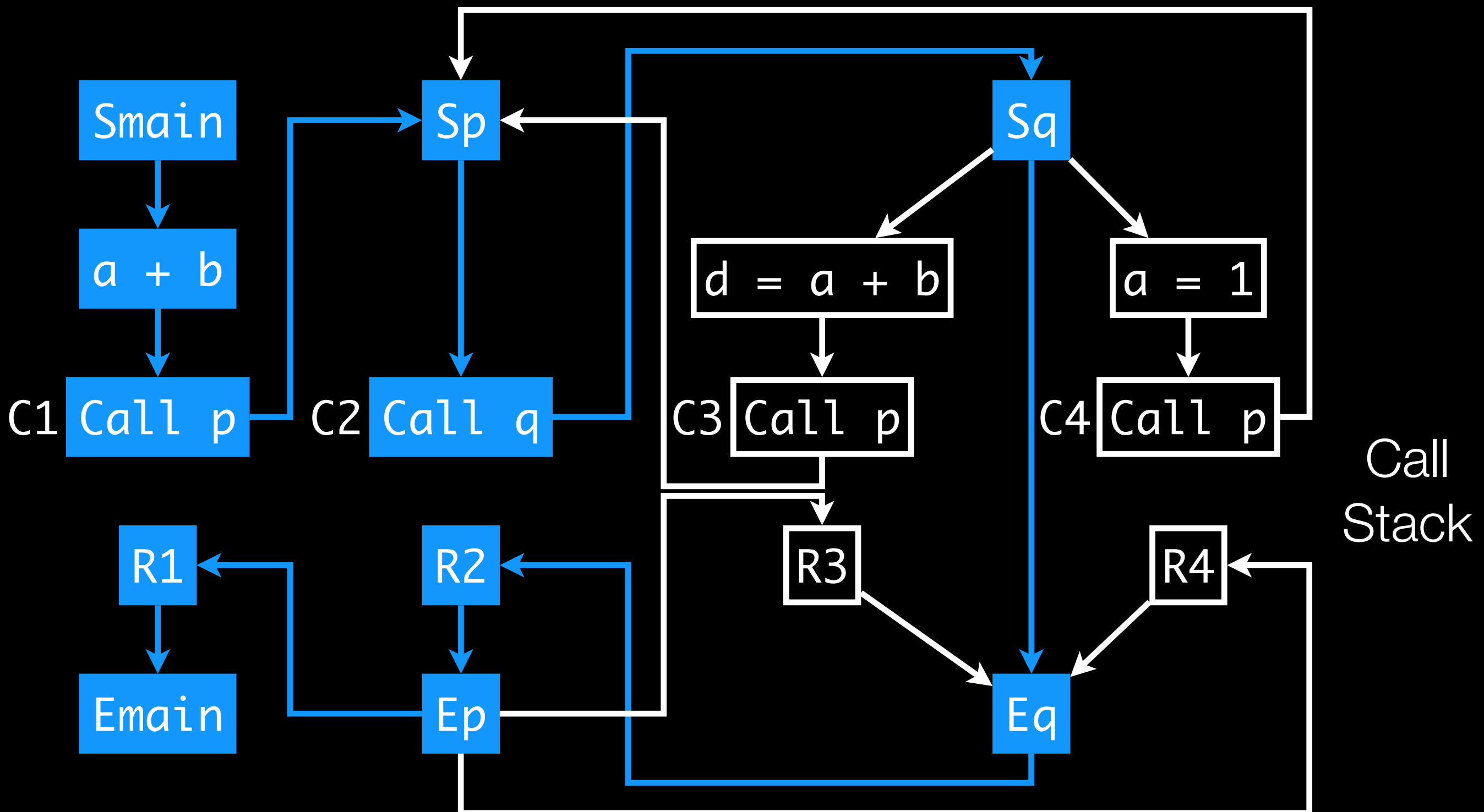
Valid/Realizable Path



Valid/Realizable Path

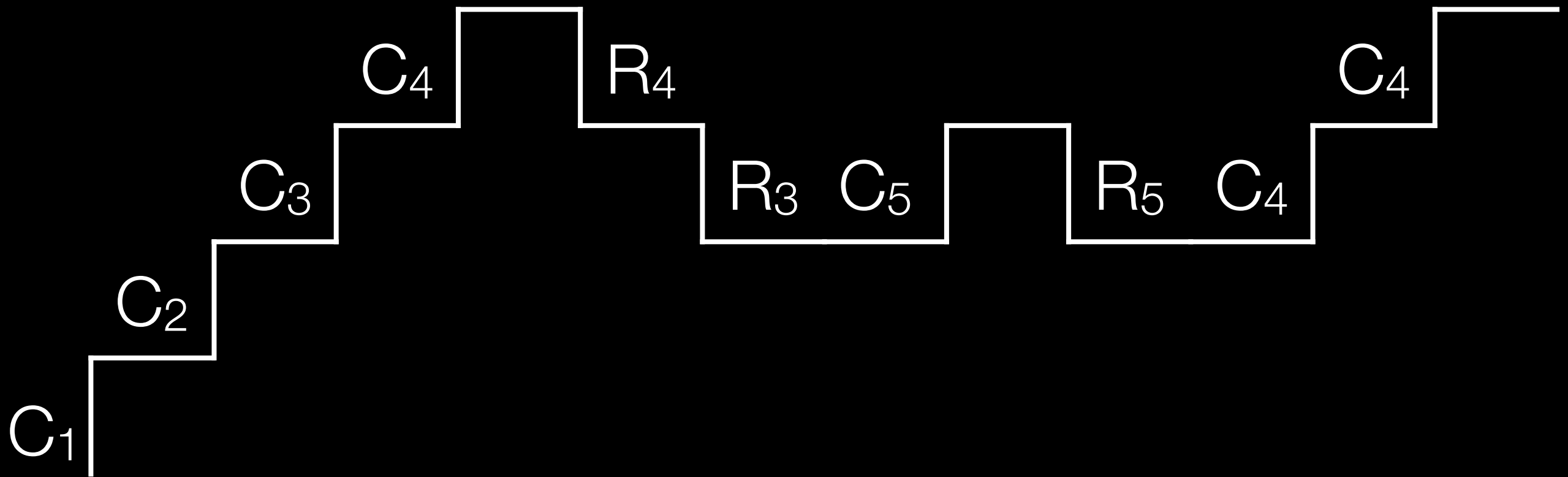


Valid/Realizable Path



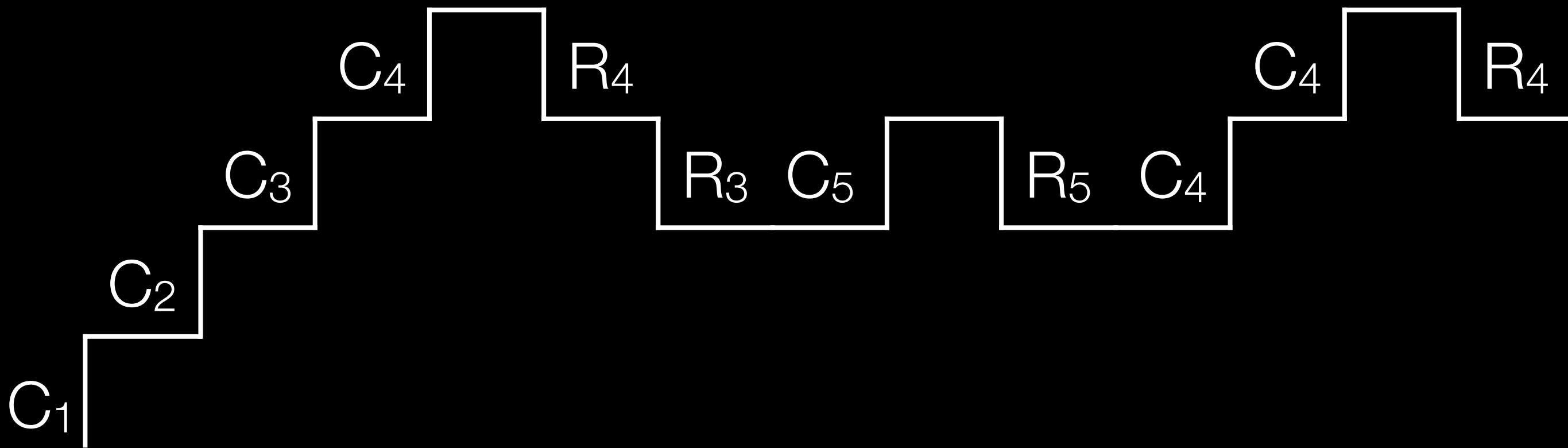
Recognizing Invalid Paths

Staircase of Calls & Returns



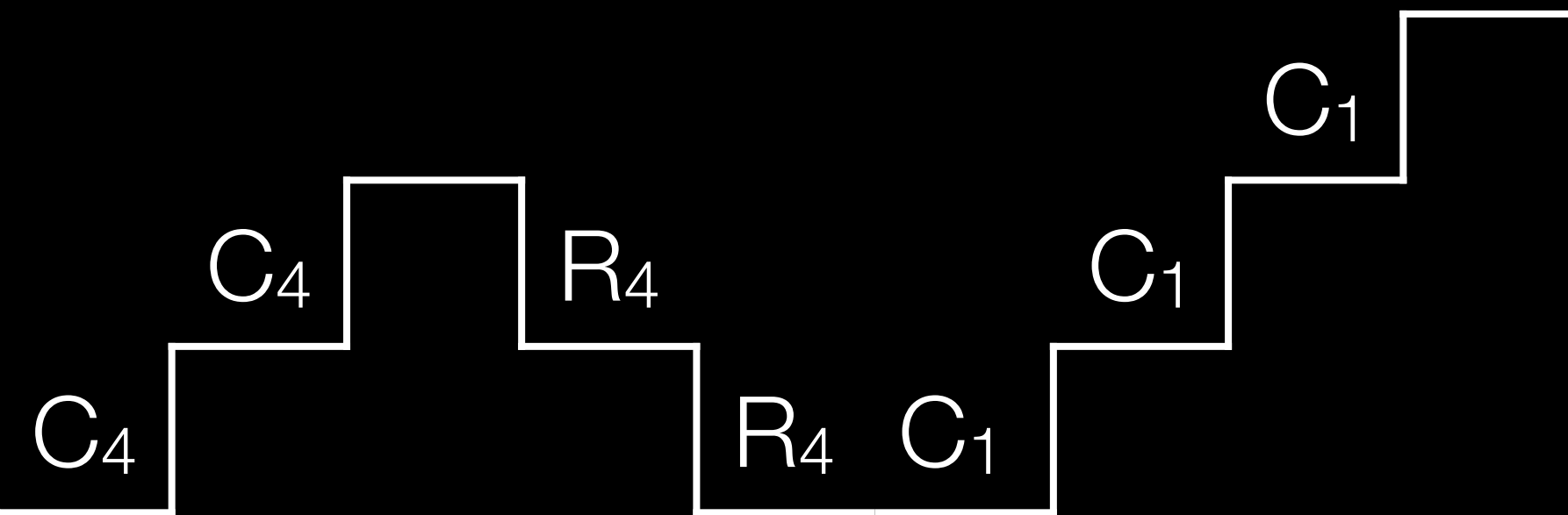
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Staircase of Calls & Returns



Recognizing Invalid Paths

Staircase of Calls & Returns



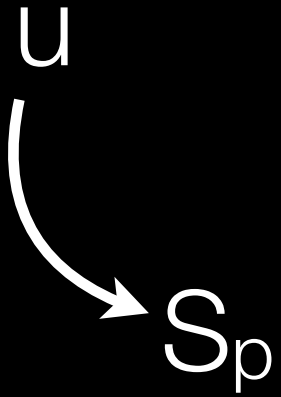
Every descending step must match
a corresponding ascending step

2 problems with that!

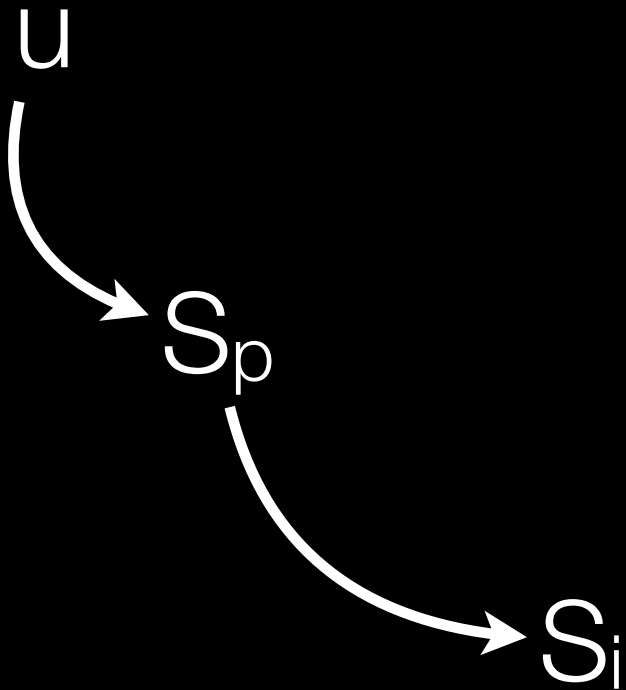
Problem # 1: Recursion

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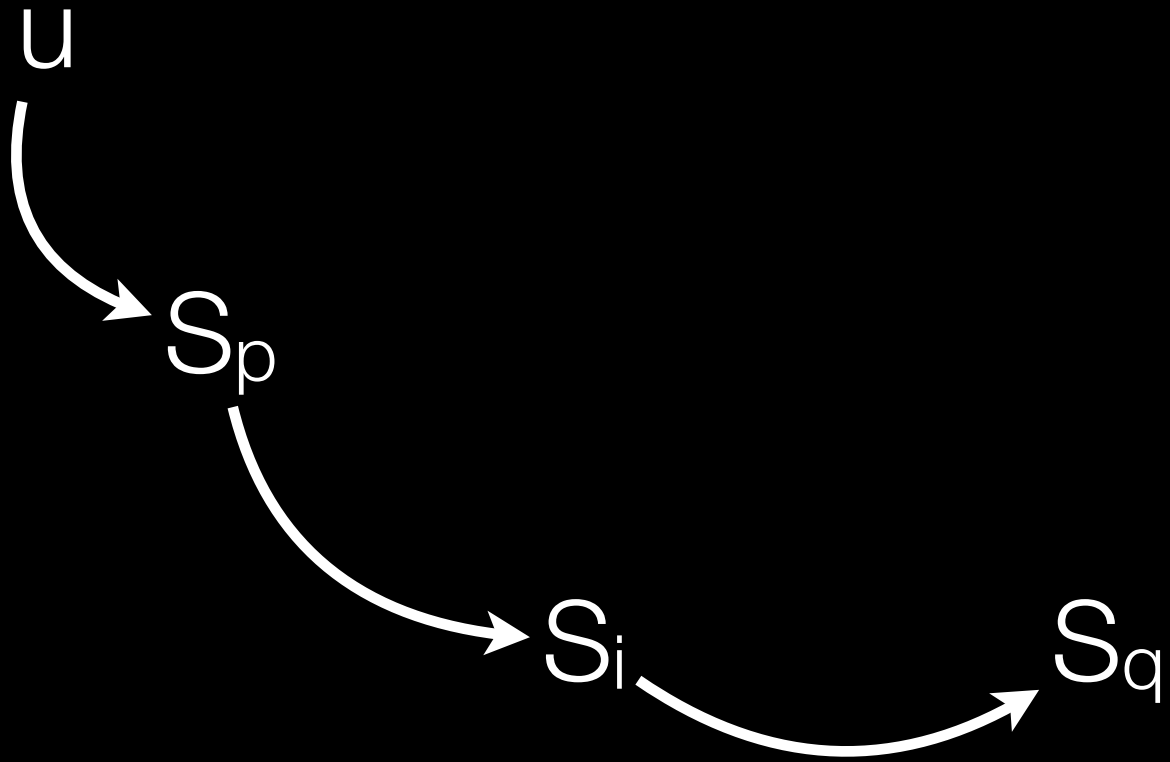
Problem # 1: Recursion



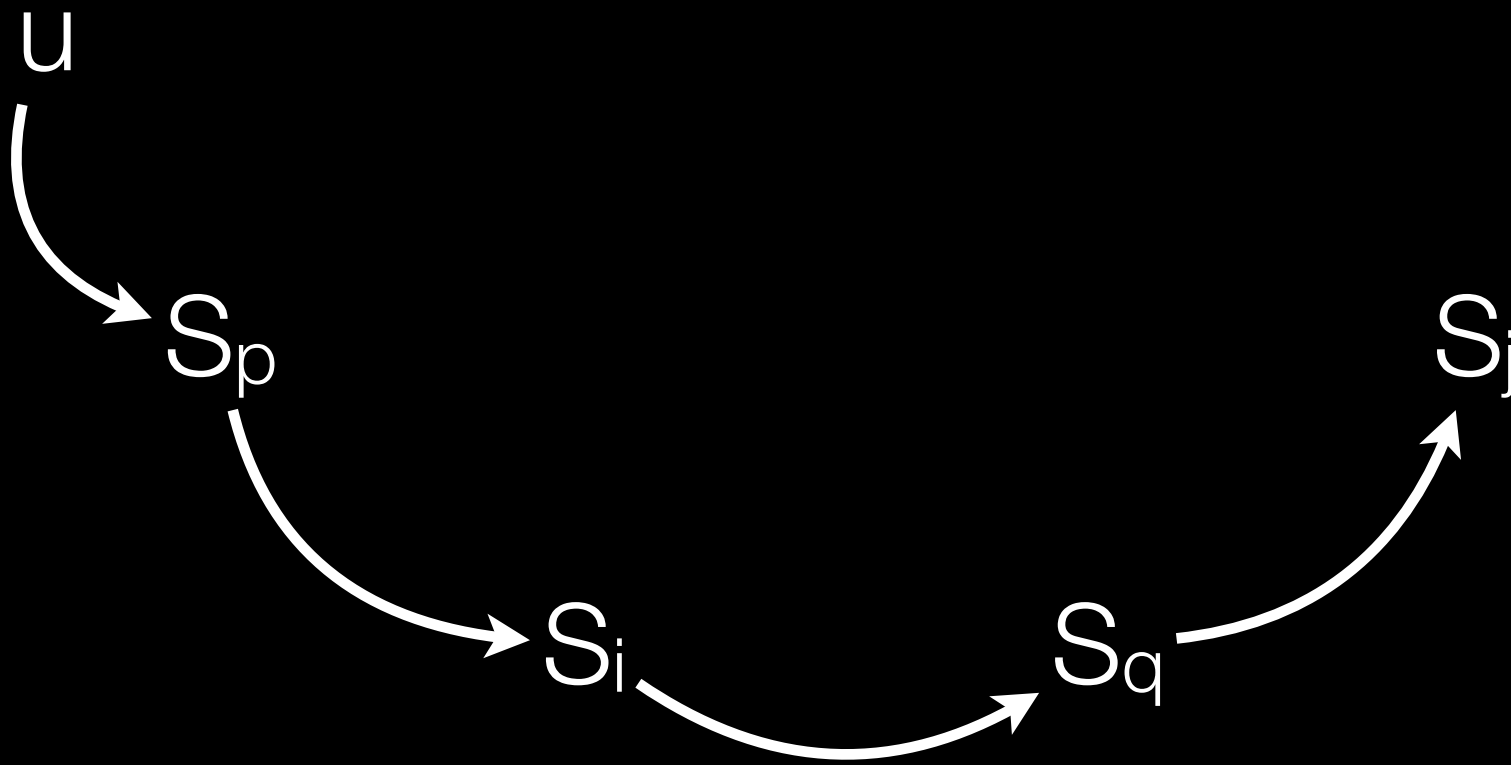
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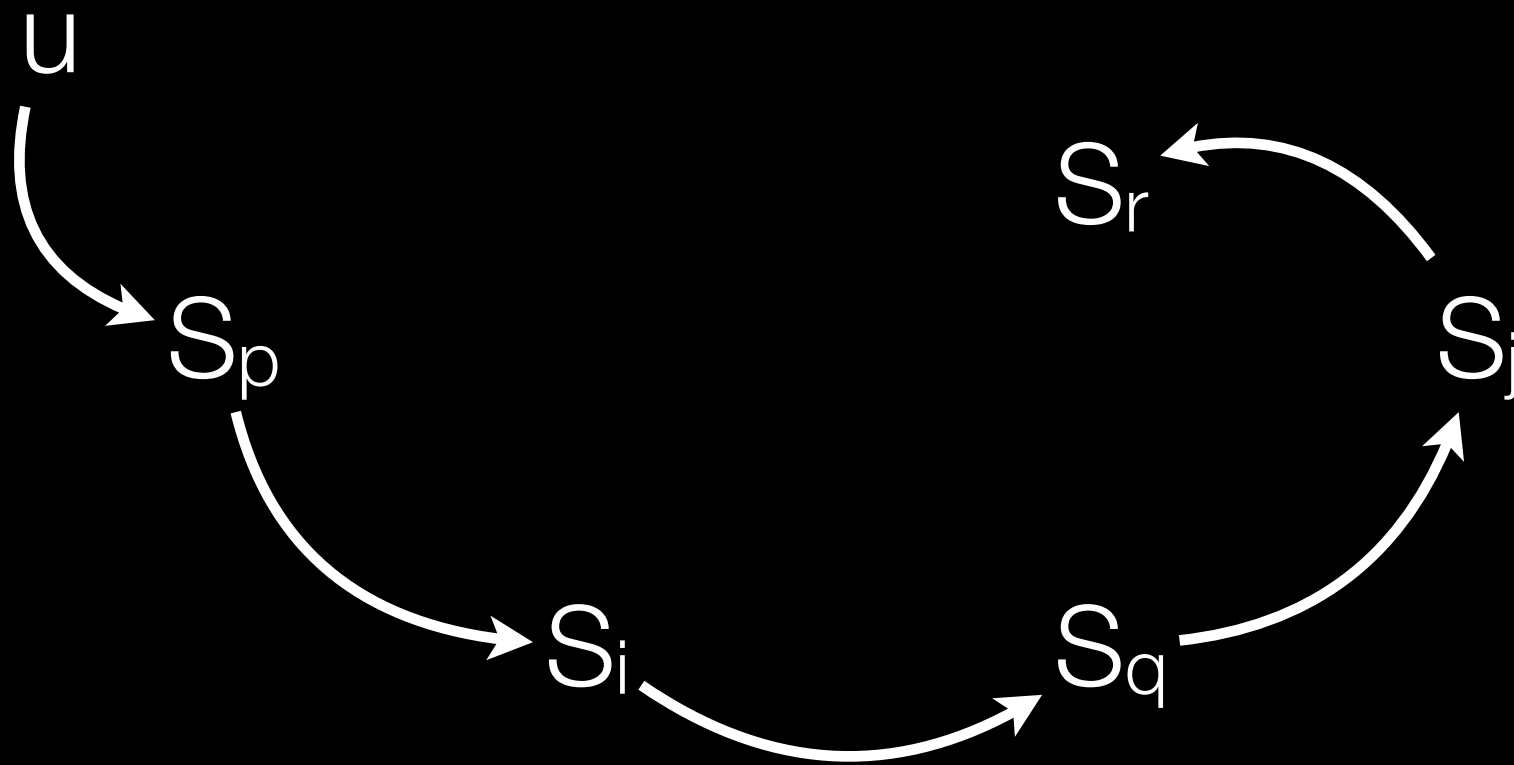
Problem # 1: Recursion



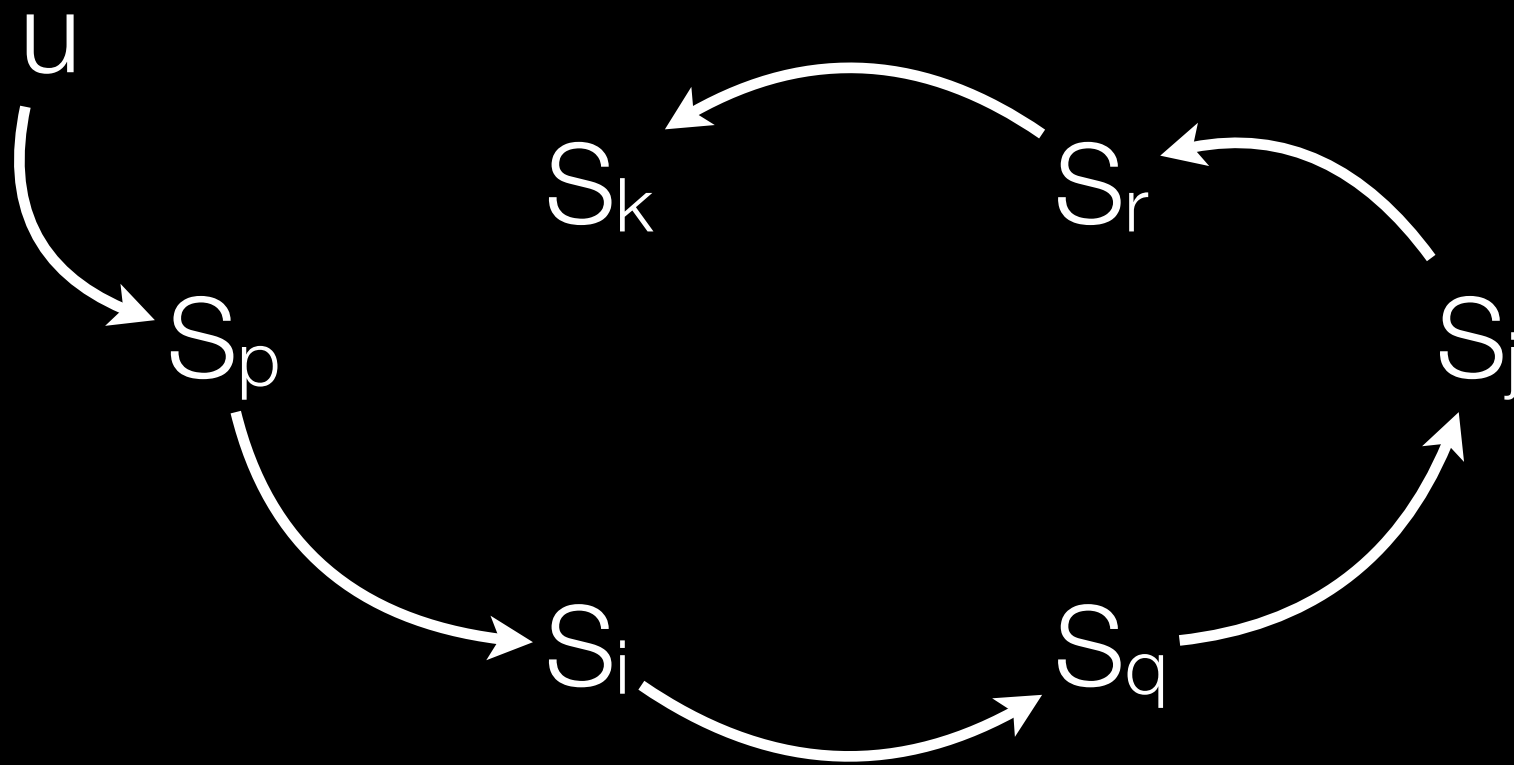
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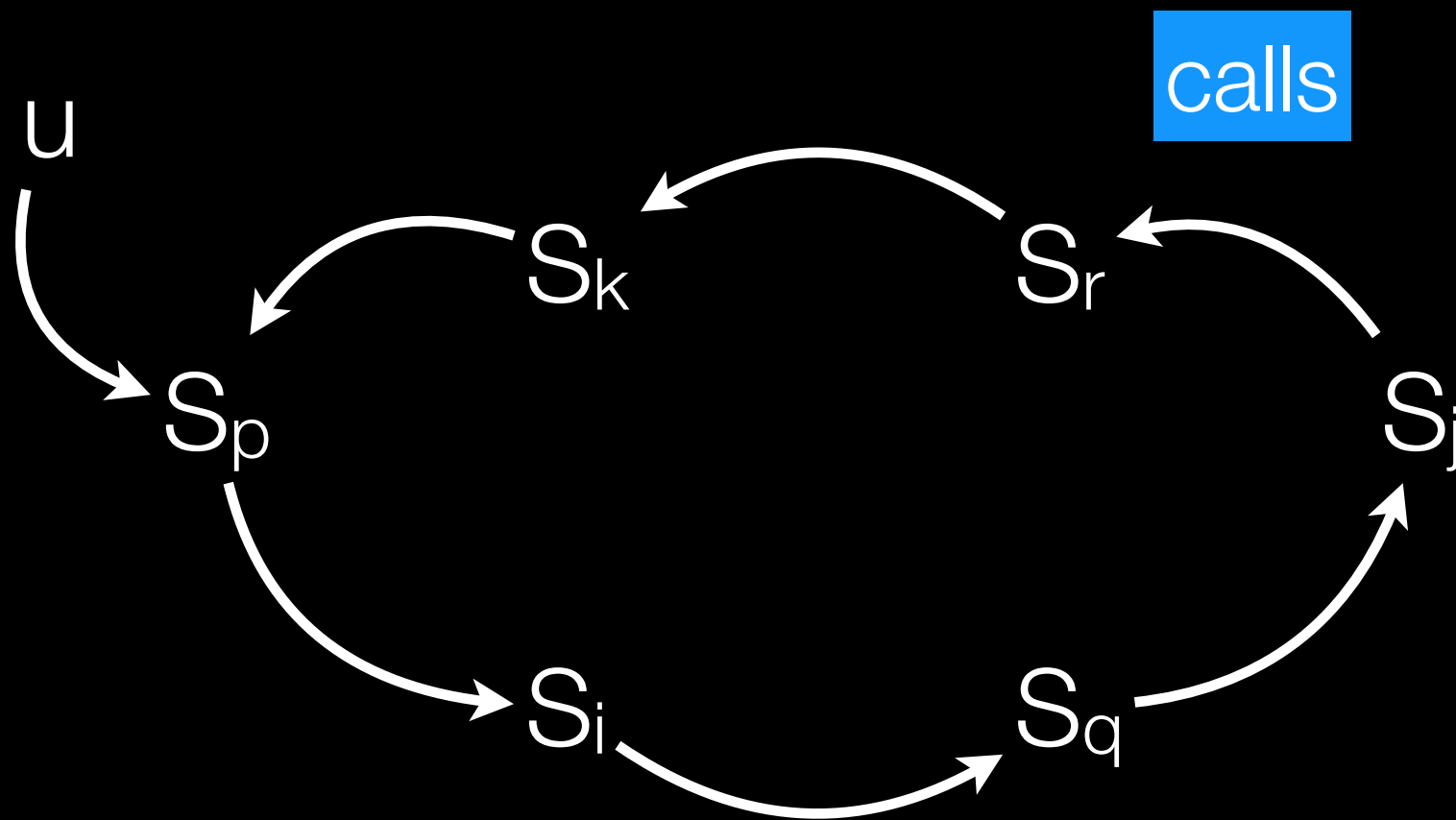
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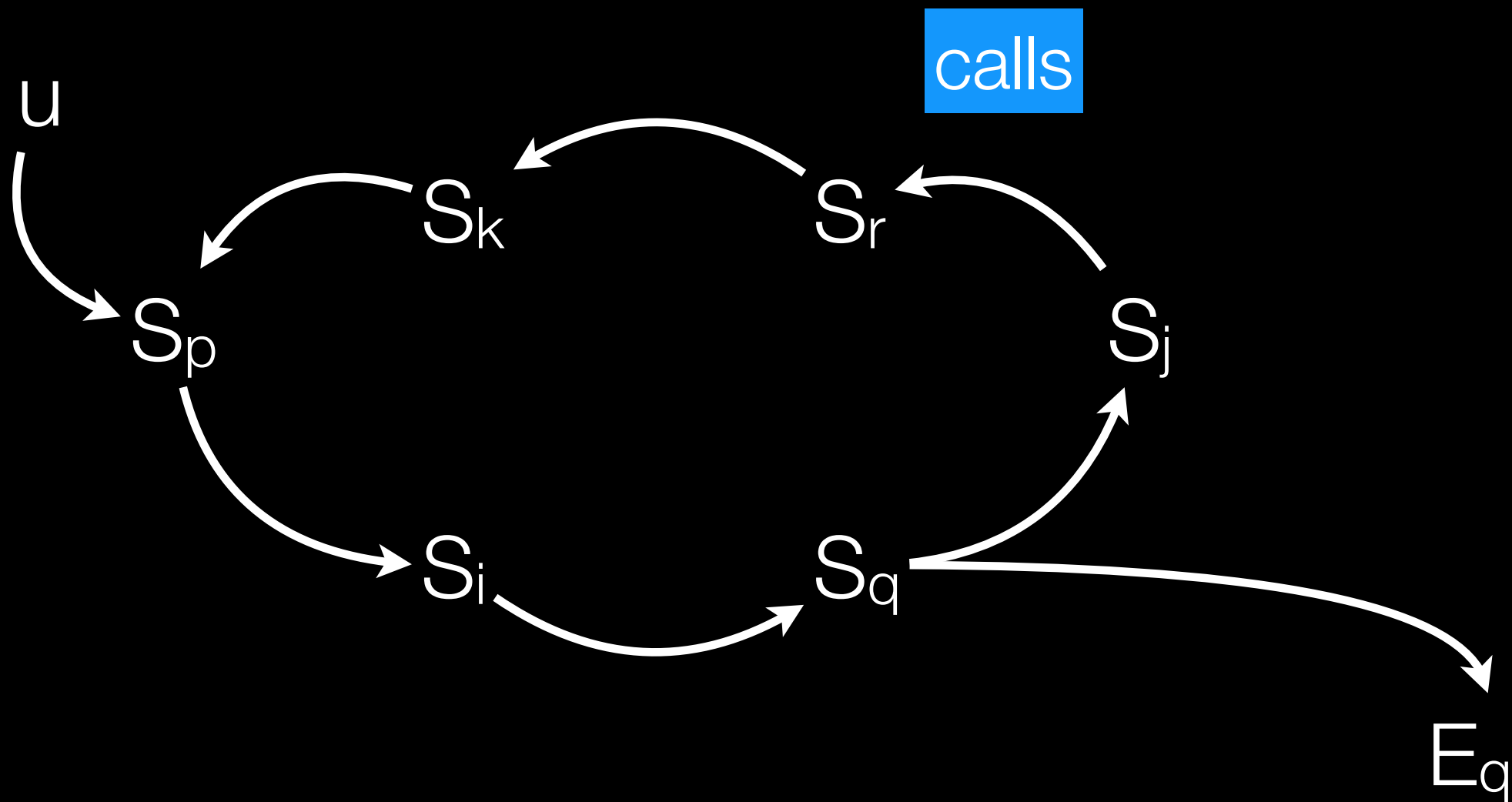
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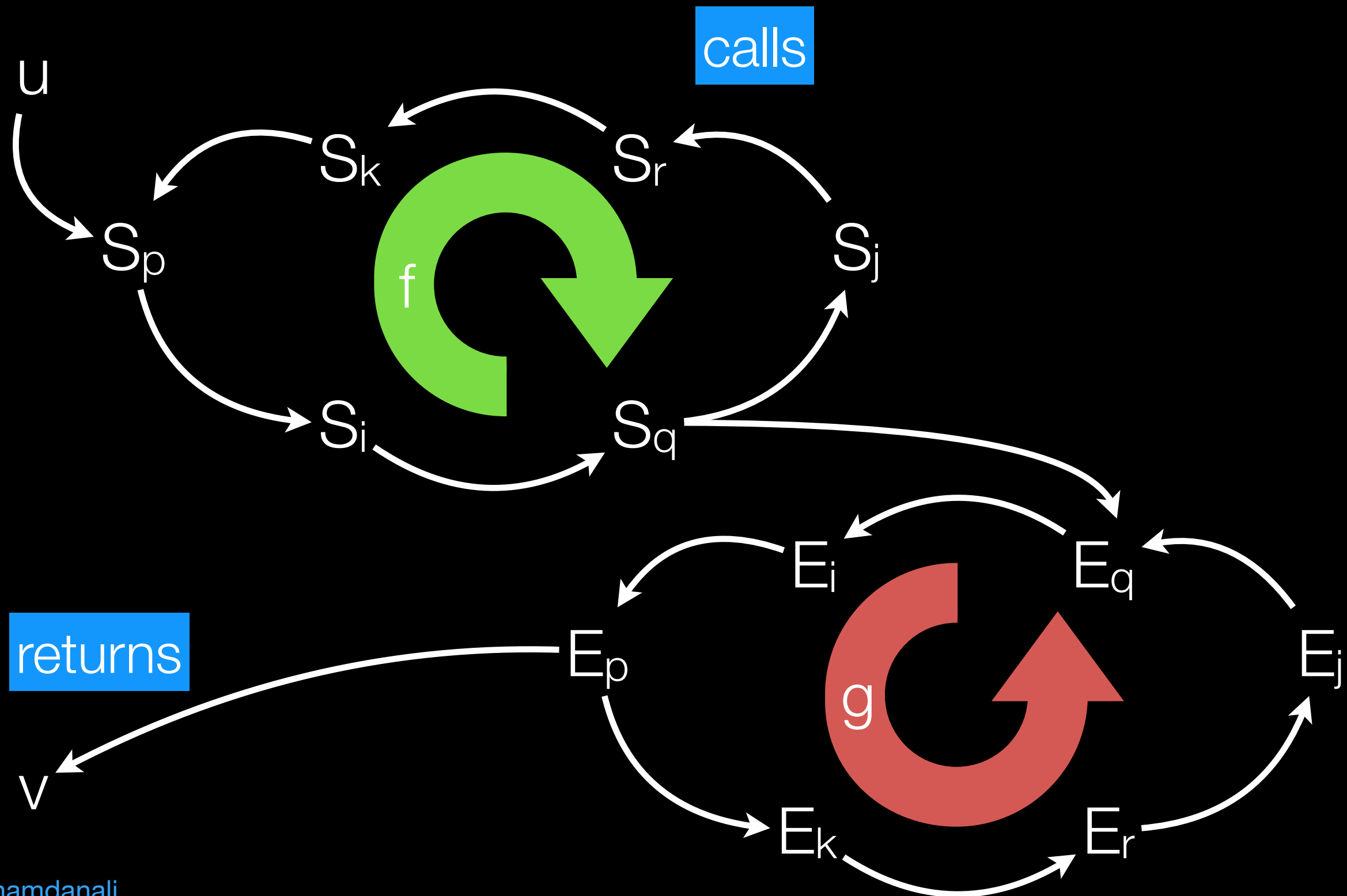
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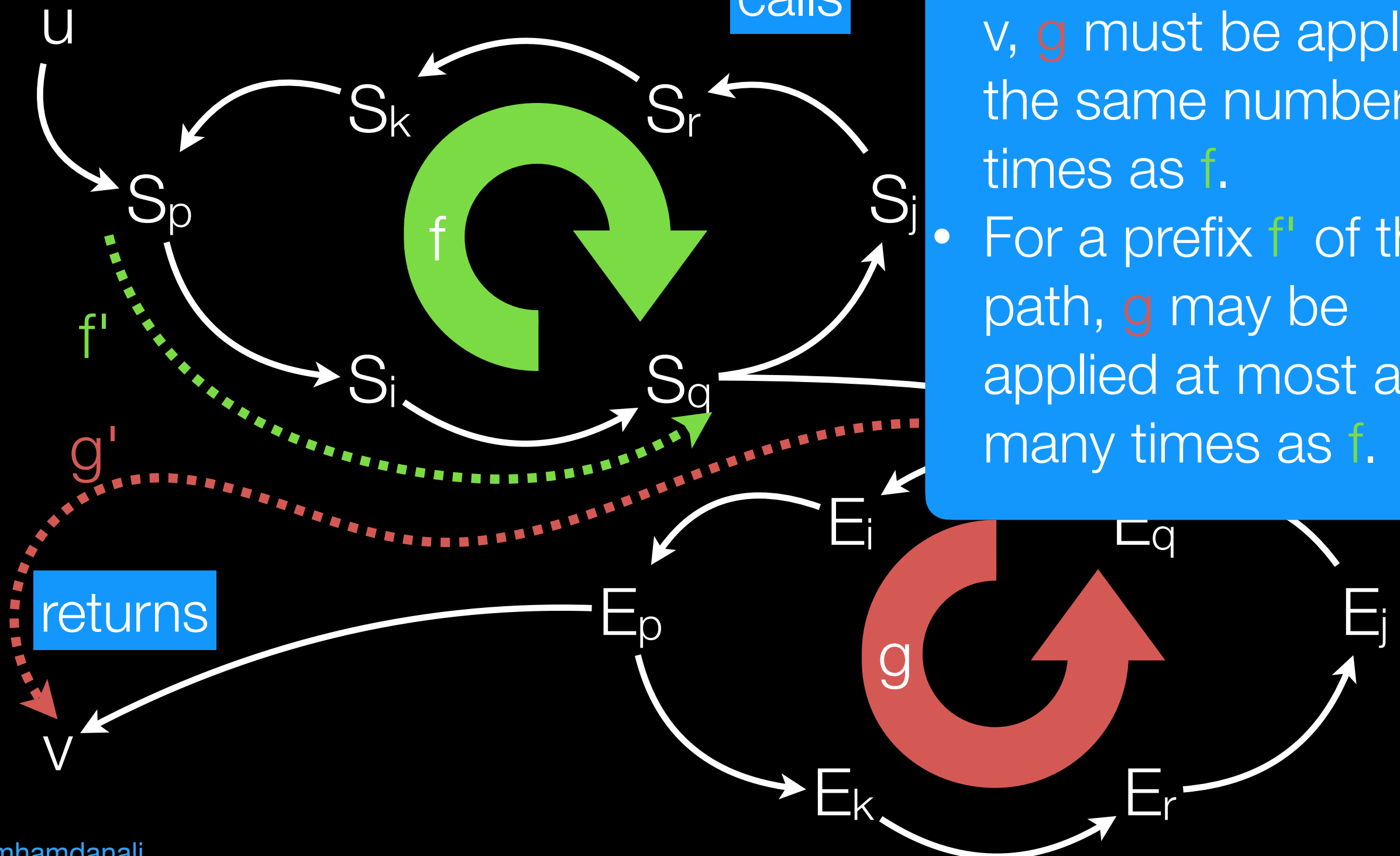


Problem # 1: Recursion



Problem # 1: Recursion

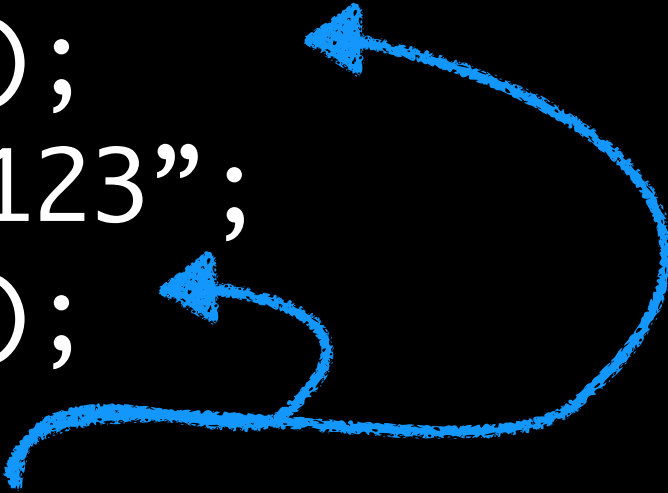
calls



- For a path from u to v , g must be applied the same number of times as f .
- For a prefix f' of that path, g may be applied at most as many times as f .

Problem # 2: Demand-Driven Analysis

```
main() {  
    s = secret();  
    foo(s);  
    t = "123";  
    foo(t);  
}  
foo(v) { leak(v); }
```



assume we search
from `foo(v)`
backwards to find
possible inputs



here: “unbalanced return” without a call
must return to all possible callers

Solution: Context-Sensitive Analysis

Context-Sensitive Analysis

- Analyze the same method, depending on the context of the current call to that method

Context-Sensitive Analysis

- Considerations:
 - How to distinguish different contexts?
 - Which contexts can be merged?

Types of Context

- A call string that encodes the methods/call sites on the current call stack
- A value context that uses the input domain values as context
- An object context that uses the currently executing object as context
- and more...

Important Language Features

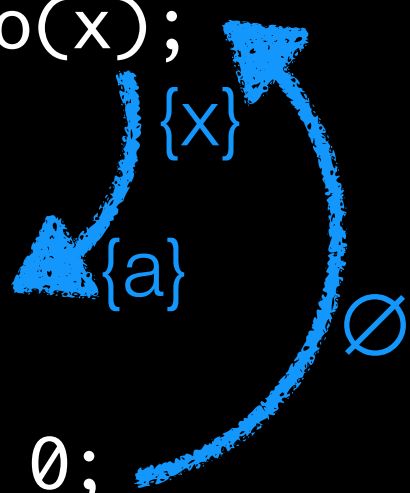
Recursion

- Must bound computation and contexts
- Often uses flow-insensitive analysis to over-approximate

Parameters/Return Values

- Must map actuals to formals and vice versa
- Don't propagate too much info:
 - at a call: propagate only the facts relevant to that callee
 - at a return: propagate only the facts relevant to the caller
- Question: what to do with static fields?

```
main(){  
    x = source();  
    y = x;  
    z = foo(x);  
}  
  
foo(a) {  
    b = a;  
    return 0;  
}
```



Aliasing

aliases might be
created by
callers and
callees

```
main(){  
    a.f.g = source();  
    foo(a,b);  
    leak(b.f.g);  
}  
  
foo(x,y) {  
    y.f=x.f;  
}
```

Virtual Dispatch

- Multiple possible call targets per call site
- Consider them all!
 - “may” or “must” analysis?
 - similar to intra-procedural branches at if-then-else constructs (combine)

Threads

- Intra-procedural analyses are typically sound despite multi-threaded execution
- Inter-procedural analyses are typically *unsound* if flow-sensitive!
- Flow-insensitive analyses not impacted by multi-threading
- Effective modelling of synchronization constructs is a big open research problem!

Library Dependencies

- Typically analyze an application with its dependencies
- But what about native code?
- Often need to resort to hand-crafted summaries
- Possible way out: summarization (e.g., Averroes)

Recap

- Context-sensitivity analyzes a method multiple times, once per context
- Challenges: Recursion, parameters, aliasing, virtual dispatch, threads, libraries

Next

- Context sensitivity